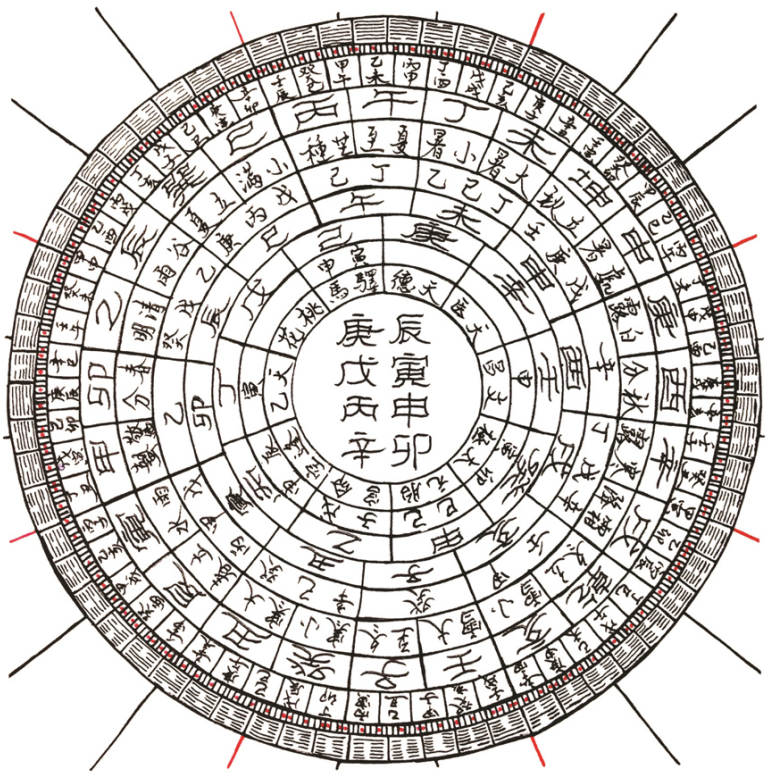
Calculating the BaZi

The GanZhi/Chinese Astrology Workbook



SINGING DRAGON

Karin Taylor Wu

Calculating the BaZi
The GanZhi/Chinese Astrology Workbook

Karin Taylor Wu
Foreword by Master Zhongxian Wu

SINGING DRAGON
LONDON AND PHILADELPHIA

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FOREWORD

TianSuan 天算
The Cosmic Agenda

Master Zhongxian Wu

Did you ever wonder why it seems that some people are born with luck while others are merely lucky to be born? Most people prefer to believe that they alone make choices that shape their future. Yet, in large part, our destiny is designed for us, oftentimes without our conscious awareness. In general, our life patterns reflect the patterns of our deeper destiny. According to the Daoist tradition, this is because the experiential reality of a person's life is ruled by his or her own Ming 命 (karma).

In Chinese, we have a very well-known saying:

RenSuanBuRuTianSuan
人算不如天算
A person's reckoning will never compare with heavenly reckoning

In other words, no matter how carefully you prepare for any event, the influence of the universe is immensely more powerful. However, this does not mean you will never be able to affect your life events through the power of your own choice. In fact, for thousands of years, the very essence of Chinese philosophy holds that our lives are not solely controlled by fate:

WoMingZaiWo BuZaiTian
我命在我不在天
My life is in my hands
It is not controlled by fate

Through mindfulness and effort, we all have the ability to improve our karma and achieve true autonomy.

How? In order to do so, you first need to know what the heavenly reckoning, TianSuan 天算, or the Cosmic Agenda, is. The way to access TianSuan is, in fact, to have highly refined qualities such as clarity, judgment, and skill, or, in other words, to have well-informed RenSuan 人算.

In Chinese wisdom traditions, there are many arts of RenSuan that help people improve their daily lives. These arts fall under the category of ShuShu 數術, the art of number/calculation/mathematics, and include: Chinese medicine, Fengshui, astrology, cosmology, Yijing prediction system, and others. In the higher levels of these arts, specific calculations are applied to bring understanding of the

TianSuan behind any condition or phenomenon. SuanBaZi 算八字 is the art of connecting with the TianSuan of your destiny, and it is one of the best ways to optimize both your daily and overall experience of life.

SuanBaZi translates literally as "calculating eight woods/characters." This art form is also known as SuanMing 算命, which means "calculating destiny." In the western world, SuanBaZi is most commonly known as Chinese astrology. Over the years, I have come to understand that most people believe that Chinese astrology refers to identifying the characteristics of a yearly animal sign. Unfortunately, this gross misconception is actually intentional, born from an effort to offer an over-simplified view of Chinese astrology to the masses. For the most part these days, people seem to use the Chinese animal signs as entertainment while waiting for dinner at a Chinese restaurant.

Do not be mistaken. The information gleaned from a single-use table placemat represents a minuscule percentage of what actually influences the Chinese astrology chart. Your basic BaZi (Chinese astrology chart) is made with eight Chinese characters that relate to the year, month, day, and hour of birth and includes many, many indicators that can be used to help each individual gain a broader understanding of their life patterns, including precise details about health, finances, and romance.

To make a decent Chinese astrology chart, you must be able to utilize at least a few GanZhi BaZi 干支八字 calculations. Literally, GanZhi BaZi means "Stem Branch eight characters" because the fundamental aspects of each person's destiny are mapped out using a unique combination of eight special Chinese characters. Some practitioners refer to GanZhi BaZi as "Stem Branch Chinese Astrology." Decoding the GanZhi BaZi provides a fast track to changing a person's karma. It is also one of the most esoteric and challenging Daoist concepts to learn well. Traditionally, it is quite difficult to find a teacher who can clearly and effectively pass this hidden knowledge on to dedicated students.

I have been teaching and providing consultations on GanZhi BaZi since the 1980s. I have observed that in the beginning most students find it very challenging to maintain a clear grasp on the basics of the BaZi. I have also noticed that, after some time passes, many students, especially those who fall out of the rhythm of a regular BaZi practice, find that they no longer understand their own notes! Over the years, I have met requests to write a BaZi book, even a beginner-level BaZi

book, with resistance. As I personally prefer to teach the BaZi in real time, I have always answered that I would not have the patience to write such a book. As Confucius states in the *Ten Wings of Yijing* 易經:

ShuBuJinYan
書不盡言
The written word can never fully express the spoken word

Fortunately, with her rich knowledge of the GanZhi BaZi, skillful writing talent, and steadfastness, Karin Taylor Wu is offering us her *SuanBaZi* workbook. This book delivers clear instruction for making a GanZhi BaZi astrology chart and calculating the cosmic influences. With careful precision, she lays out numerous sample exercises to help students develop their understanding of the calculations, offers many practice exercises to help students get into the flow of chart building, and presents opportunities for deeper understanding by providing real BaZi case studies. On top of all that, this book reveals (for the first time) my own secret method for making a chart without needing to have a GanZhi calendar on hand!

Karin Taylor Wu's *SuanBaZi* will bring continual benefits to serious students of Chinese wisdom traditions, such as medicine, astrology, cosmology, Fengshui, Yijing, internal alchemy, Qigong, Taiji, and others. It is an extraordinary tool to help you access your TianSuan, the Cosmic Agenda!

With Destiny Shaping Qi,
Master Zhongxian Wu
BingShen ZhongQiu 丙申中龜 (Mid-autumn of Fire Monkey Year)
"Rainbow Harbor," Sweden

AUTHOR NOTES

•

You will find all Chinese PinYin words and phrases throughout this book are capitalized. When they are first introduced, I will also provide the English translation and Chinese characters.

•

When the words Five Elements, Element, Water, Wood, Fire, Earth, and Metal are capitalized, they refer specifically to the Chinese WuXing 五行 (Five Elements). When you see Heavenly Stems, Earthly Branches, Stem(s), and Branch(es) capitalized, they refer specifically to the Chinese GanZhi 干支 (Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches).

•

The GanZhi hail from the northern hemisphere. Thus, any related terms regarding BaZi time, season, or direction refer to the northern hemisphere.

•

To make the examples in this book as easy to follow as possible, I have presented all the BaZi information in Beijing time. In those rare instances where the birth time occurs very close to a JieQi 節氣 (see Chapter 1), you will need to adjust the JieQi time (JieQi tables are found in the Appendix) to the local time of the birth in question. While some practitioners prefer to utilize the Beijing time adjustment when calculating the MingGong 命宮 (see Chapter 3) and DaYun 大運 (see Chapter 4) of each chart, I was taught that being overly fastidious with this level of precision does not significantly impact the gestalt of the chart analysis.

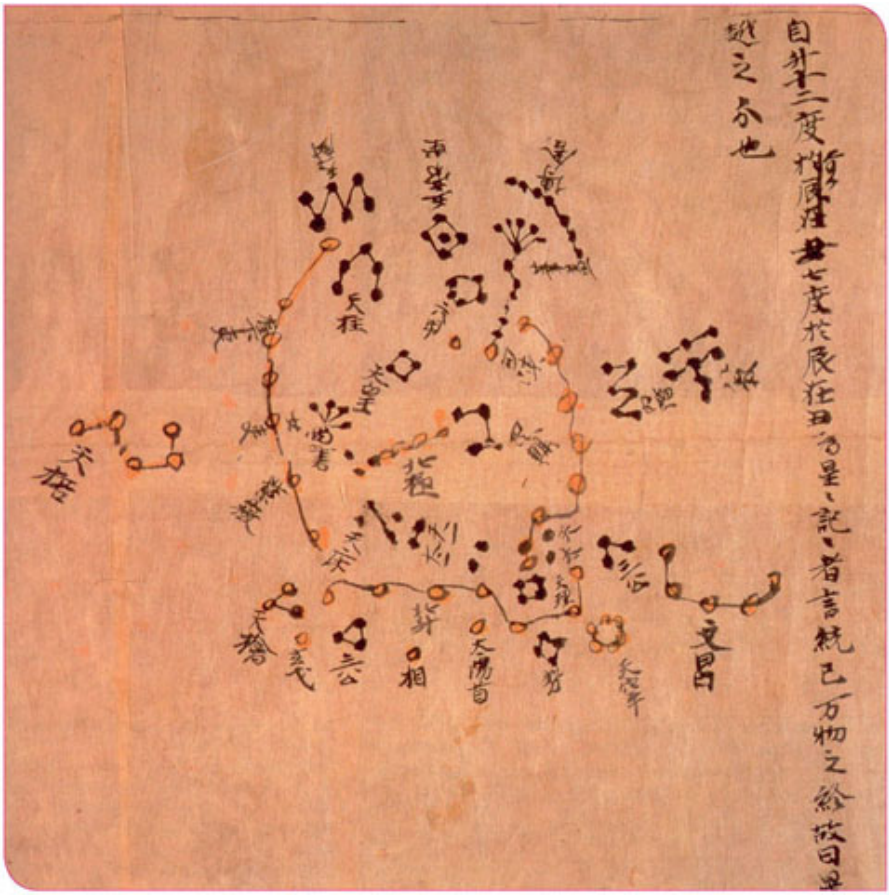
•

I have been given express permission from several generous individuals to include actual birth information and pertinent life details for use in this book. However, many of the examples include birth information that I created in order to illustrate a point. In these instances, any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental.

•

Writing a book for publication is an undertaking that, by its very nature, is quite personal. That said, I'd like to take the

briefest of moments to share with you the correct pronunciation of my first name—it's Karin [*kahr*-in], the "ah" sound found in words like carbon, cardiac, and carnival.



A portion of the DunHuang star map

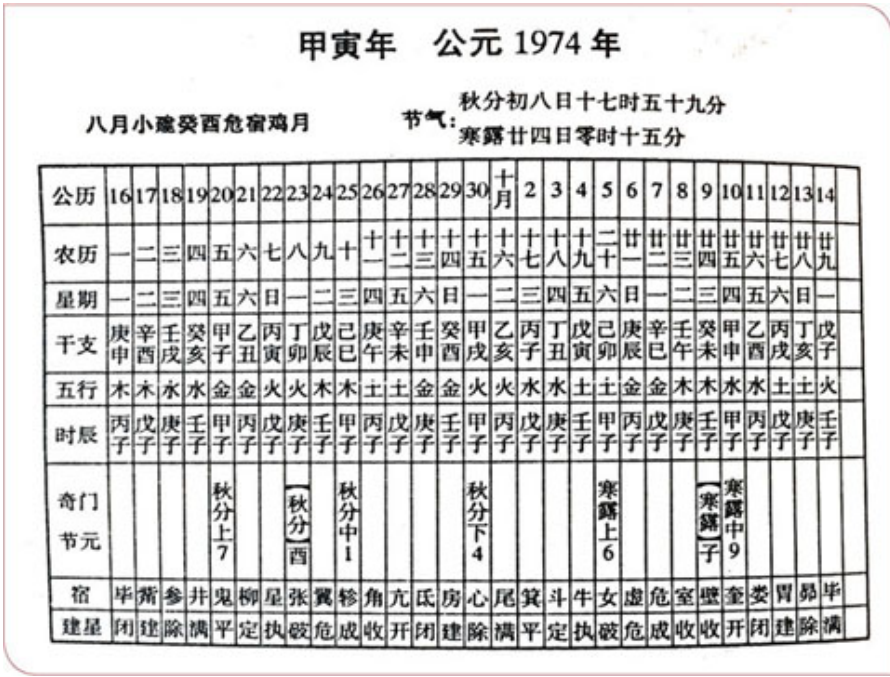
GanZhi BaZi Calendar

The DunHuang 敦煌 star map, the world's oldest complete star atlas to date (dated to the Tang Dynasty, 618–907 CE), suggests that the Chinese have long been "thinking in oceans," engrossed by the mysterious yet tangible inner workings of outer space for perhaps longer than any other culture on earth. In *Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches*,[1] Master Zhongxian Wu and I showed the connection between the patterns of the stars and the 22 ancient GanZhi 干支 characters (the term "GanZhi" is the accepted shorthand of TianGan 天干, Heavenly Stems, and DiZhi 地支, Earthly Branches). Together, the GanZhi represent cyclical patterns of the interactions between and among cosmic and earthly energies. These 22 characters, the

Heavenly Stems (of which there are ten) and Earthly Branches (of which there are 12), are the “alphabet” of all traditional Chinese wisdom traditions—from astrology to cosmology, from medicine to music.

GanZhi has been widely used throughout China for at least 4000 years—archeological evidence from the Xia, Shang, and Zhou dynasties depicting the GanZhi characters provides us with historical evidence of Chinese astrology as a complex science drawing on the sophisticated understandings of cosmology, astronomy, and “big picture” scholarly philosophies. It comes as no great surprise that the Chinese long ago created an all-encompassing, multidimensional calendar that systemized the mysterious yet tangible outer influences of the heavens and earth on the inner worlds of our human experience.

This calendar, the WanNianLi 萬年曆 (10,000-year calendar), is a lunisolar calendar that tracks the cyclical movements and energetic patterns of Daoism’s most fundamental philosophies: unity (Dao 道), duality (YinYang 陰陽), the pentad (WuXing 五行), and the octad (BaGua 八卦). The WanNianLi is also the GanZhi calendar, by which I mean it is the one we use in our Chinese astrology practice. As it contains layers of significance, capturing the movements of several things at once, grasping the basics of the calendar can feel a little confusing at first.



甲寅年　公元 1974 年

八月小建癸酉危宿鸡月

节气：秋分初八日十七时五十九分
寒露廿四日零时十五分

公历	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	十月	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
农历	一	二	三	四	五	六	七	八	九	十	十一	十二	十三	十四	十五	十六	十七	十八	十九	二十	廿一	廿二	廿三	廿四	廿五	廿六	廿七	廿八	廿九
星期	一	二	三	四	五	六	日	一	二	三	四	五	六	日	一	二	三	四	五	六	日	一	二	三	四	五	六	日	一
干支	庚申	辛酉	壬戌	癸亥	甲子	乙丑	丙寅	丁卯	戊辰	己巳	庚午	辛未	壬申	癸酉	甲戌	乙亥	丙子	丁丑	戊寅	己卯	庚辰	辛巳	壬午	癸未	甲申	乙酉	丙戌	丁亥	戊子
五行	木	木	水	水	金	金	火	火	木	木	土	土	金	金	火	火	水	水	土	土	金	金	木	木	水	水	土	土	火
时辰	丙子	戊子	庚子	壬子	甲子	丙子	戊子	庚子	壬子	甲子	丙子	戊子	庚子	壬子	甲子	丙子	戊子	庚子	壬子	甲子	丙子	戊子	庚子	壬子	甲子	丙子	戊子	庚子	壬子
奇门节元					秋分上7			【秋分】酉		秋分中1					秋分下4					寒露上6				【寒露】子	寒露中9				
宿	毕	觜	参	井	鬼	柳	星	张	翼	轸	角	亢	氐	房	心	尾	箕	斗	牛	女	虚	危	室	壁	奎	娄	胃	昴	毕
建星	闭	建	除	满	平	定	执	破	危	成	收	开	闭	建	除	满	平	定	执	破	危	成	收	收	开	闭	建	除	满

A section from the WanNianLi 萬年曆 *(10,000-year calendar)*

On that note, here is a very brief overview of the philosophies upon which the calendar was built, specifically as they relate to Chinese astrology.

Dao 道

The Dao is the momentum of life and the source of everything, that which is without beginning and without end. As LaoZi states in the *DaoDeJing* 道德經, there are no words that can adequately describe what the Dao truly is. With that caveat, I will simply say that the Dao expresses herself as both the great oneness as well as the path towards unity.

To the best of our ability, we follow the Dao when calculating and analyzing anyone's personal birth information. We always strive to approach the task from a heart-centered place of wholism, trying our best to coalesce masses of patterns into one unifying picture that allows us to provide guidance and support to the very best of our ability.

YinYang 陰陽

YinYang is the central, most basic tenet of all Chinese wisdom traditions. Although Yin and Yang have distinguishable qualities (Yin 陰 quite literally means "shady side of the hill" and is often described

as dark, feminine, hidden, passive, and lunar, whereas Yang 陽, which means "sunny side of the hill," is seen as bright, masculine, outward, active, and solar), in truth YinYang is an interconnected, inseparable, fluid, and fluctuating union. YinYang interact with and transform each other at all times, and are the driving force behind the creation of all phenomena, those of human being, the natural world, and the cosmos.

The Stems and Branches each have Yin and Yang manifestations—five Yin and five Yang Stems, six Yin and six Yang Branches—which provide deeper insight into the dynamics of the astrology chart. A few examples of how knowing these patterns becomes useful in your chart reading include the ability to: identify underlying organs and meridian systems which are out of balance (so that you may pinpoint the root cause of dysfunction rather than chase after the symptoms); provide targeted advice for food and lifestyle modification; and recognize strengths and weaknesses in interpersonal relationships, career paths, finances, etc.

WuXing 五行

WuXing is the other core philosophy of traditional Chinese culture. Commonly translated as "Five Elements," the etymology of these Chinese characters reveals a principle that is vastly complex and conceptually translates more accurately as the interaction between and among the myriad of energies of heaven and earth, intertwined in an eternal cosmic dance. The Elements—Water, Wood, Fire, Earth, and Metal—describe qualities of all phenomena within the known universe and are also in themselves symbols representing time, space, color, flavor, odor, vital organ of the body, acupuncture meridian, musical tone, emotion, and more!

The Stems and Branches individually represent the Five Elements and the incredible dynamism of the chart—elemental energies combine with and transform one another in a beautiful alchemical process. This alchemical process is largely driven by the so-called "Hidden Stems," which document the subsurface relationships of the Stems and Branches. Your skill in reading a chart accurately grows exponentially as your understanding of WuXing deepens. In the chapters to come, I will discuss only the primary elemental relationships, as the more intricate elemental subtleties of the BaZi practice are beyond the scope of this book.

Briefly, here are two quick reference charts correlating the Heavenly Stems and the Earthly Branches with their YinYang and Five Element qualities. Please understand that more in-depth study of the

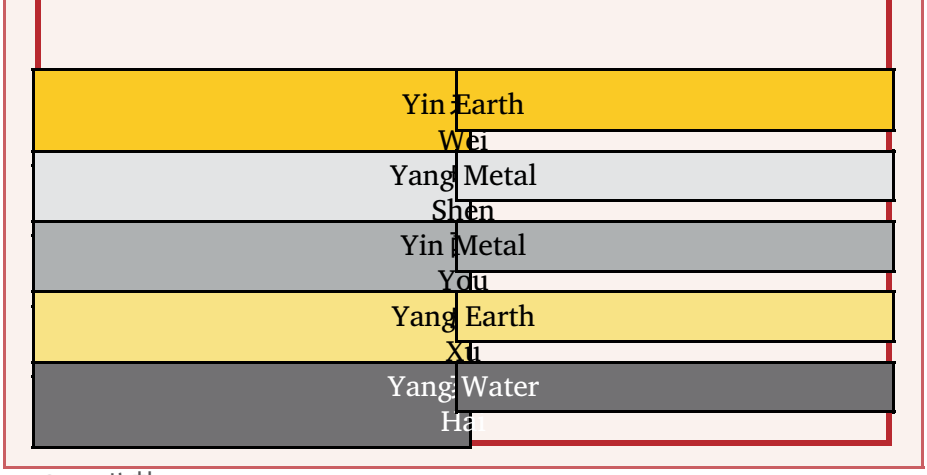
information presented in these charts will enrich your mastery of Chinese astrology.

Heavenly Stems—YinYang and Five Element Qualities

Yang Wood	Jia
Yin Wood	Yi
Yang Fire	Bing
Yin Fire	Ding
Yang Earth	Wu
Yin Earth	Ji
Yang Metal	Geng
Yin Metal	Xin
Yang Water	Ren
Yin Water	Gui

Earthly Branches—YinYang and Five Element Relationships

Yin Water	Zi
Yin Earth	Chou
Yang Wood	Yin
Yin Wood	Mao
Yang Earth	Chen
Yang Fire	Si
Yin Fire	Wu



BaGua 八卦

The BaGua (Eight Symbols) are the building blocks of Daoist philosophy, internal martial arts, and classical Chinese medicine. They are most commonly recognized in the form of eight trigrams (three-lined drawings), which serve as written symbols that represent the fundamental principles of the universe and the essence of reality. The aforementioned concepts of Dao, YinYang, and WuXing are incorporated within each trigram.

Understanding the symbolism of the BaGua (i.e. everything in existence) is obviously quite an endeavor. Although advanced BaZi analysis will necessarily incorporate the wisdom of the BaGua, I will not be discussing this aspect of Chinese astrology in the context of this book. To learn more about the BaGua in both theory and practice, please refer to *Seeking the Spirit of The Book of Change* by Master Zhongxian Wu.[2]

BaZi 八字

The BaZi (Eight Characters) are the building blocks of the human being. At the moment of our birth, each of us is imprinted with a unique combination of universal energies, as codified by the 22 GanZhi characters.

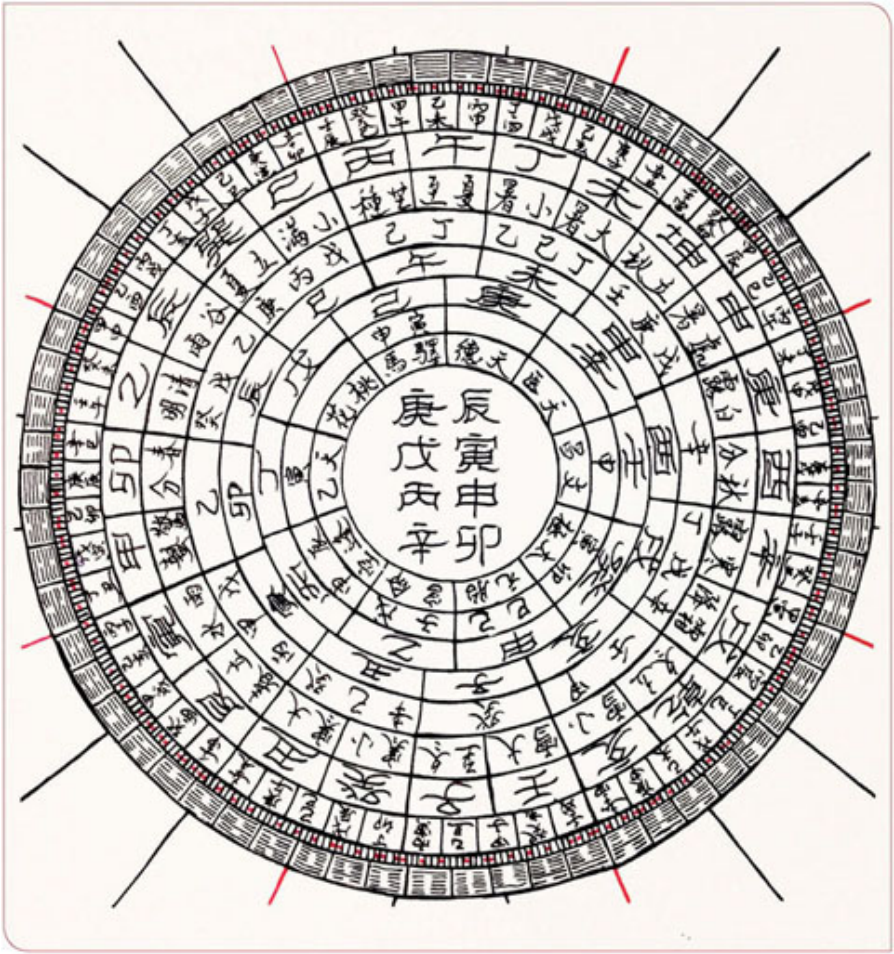
The GanZhi BaZi calendar, the traditional tool used for puzzling out a person's astrology (BaZi) chart, provides us with a map of the specific cyclical energies of each year, month, day, and hour. Historically, only a small, select group of Chinese astronomers and astrologers were given the secrets of formulating the GanZhi calendar. In days of yore, an even smaller subset of practitioners, the very finest men from the blind Yijing 易經 (I Ching or Book of Change) community, passed on an even more secret calculation method by way of an oral tradition which involved memorizing a series of highly

complex and lengthy poems (and no doubt looking quite mysterious, reciting verses and using the finger creases of their hands as arcane mudra-abaci). Amazingly, these blind astrologers were able to calculate the entire (10,000-year!) calendar in their minds, create astrological charts, and cast fortunes accordingly.

Today, interest in the GanZhi calendar is still reserved to an exclusive group of like-minded individuals. The modern trend, of course, is to forego any understanding of how the chart is created and instead install an app on your smart phone. Bucking that ever-growing trend toward instant gratification, in this book I will introduce a remarkable and complete calculation method that will allow you, the serious practitioner, to access all of the essential information contained within the GanZhi calendar so that you may puzzle out BaZi chart after BaZi chart…even if you do not happen to carry the WanNianLi, or, dare I suggest, a mobile device, with you at all times. A note of forewarning: As the process involves some elaborate calculating methods, it can prove to be quite a challenge for many of us to learn how to create a BaZi chart from scratch. Take heart! Over the years, I have seen a properly analyzed BaZi chart act as a catalyst for significant change and meaningful transformation umpteen times. People may find great confidence, encouragement, motivation, possibility, and solace through a BaZi chart reading. I hope you find yourself inspired by the task!

Chinese Astrology: BaZi 八字 and SiZhu 四柱

The basic Chinese astrological chart is made of up eight characters and is often referred to simply as BaZi. These characters map the sui generis imprint of the natural world on the baby at the moment he or she makes the profound transition from the reality of prenatal unity to the delusion of postnatal separation. It is from that instant (the year, month, day, and hour of birth) that the SiZhu or “Four Pillars” are calculated. The SiZhu form the bedrock of the astrological chart. Each Pillar is itself a pair of Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches—hence, the eight central GanZhi characters, or BaZi, of the astrology chart.



The BaZi, in a circular arrangement based on traditional Daoist alchemy drawings, as designed by the author

Calligraphy by Master Zhongxian Wu

The ability to read this star map provides opportunity for the Chinese astrology practitioner to compare a person's energetic patterns with past, present, or future patterns in nature. As all of the energetic patterns of the natural world move in cycles (24-hour cycles, 60-day cycles, 12-month cycles, 10-year cycles, 12-year cycles, 60-year cycles, and so on), we can become adept at predicting how circumgyrating natural patterns assert their influence on the core and fluctuating patterns of the individual. Daoists assert that the guidance of a skilled Chinese astrologer provides opportunity for each individual to work toward actualizing his or her greatest potential and

illuminates the path towards inner peace.[3]

> "If you truly understand the patterns of the past, you directly see their influence on patterns of the present and in the future."
>
> Master Zhongxian Wu, Vital Breath of the Dao

For better or for worse, the ability to calculate a Chinese astrology chart is no longer limited to a modest, specialized subset of Chinese astrologer. In our current digital era, access to the information within the WanNianLi is all but a mouse click or a finger tap away. For those of you who are drawn to the ancient oral tradition of BaZi calculation, or who, at least on some level, are stirred by the possibility that tapping into the universality of mathematics, ancient patterns, and symbolism may well be a way to connect your own intuition and insight to a greater collective consciousness and then channel it toward the well-being of others, get your paper and pencil ready! In this book, I have the honor of proffering a traditional method of SuanBaZi 算八字, calculating the BaZi, to the general public. The calculation method I present in this book was given to me (for the purpose of sharing) by my husband, Master Zhongxian Wu, a lifelong Daoist practitioner and teacher, and brilliant astrologer (who, lest I digress, also happens to possess a very clever mathematical mind, along with a series of other remarkable gifts). The analysis method that I have introduced is one that has been passed down through the centuries via an oral lineage of Daoist masters (again, to me from my husband) and from the DiTianSui 滴天髓—a BaZi classic.[4] With a little practice, you will be able to hone your computational skills and compile anyone's BaZi chart without having to lug around a thousand-page calendar book or rely on a questionably accurate website or smart phone app. I will also offer you a few tools for basic chart analysis and provide case studies so that you can get a small taste of just how much information can be gleaned from the BaZi. If the bug catches, you even may find yourself devoted to cultivating the true art of Chinese astrology, which is of course the masterful skill of interpreting the chart, and is the subject of another much more complicated and yet-to-be-written book.

Things you will need for each chart:

- ✓ A willing participant (it is only polite to ask permission before you start delving into someone's personal life) and

their precise birth information

✓

Pen(cil) and paper

✓

A notebook, preferably with dividers, for working the maths exercises

✓

Grade-school-level arithmetic skills

✓

Fundamental BaZi calculation formulas—yearly, monthly, daily, and hourly pillars (see Appendix)

✓

Supplementary ShenSha calculation formulas (see Chapter 5 and Appendix)

✓

Heavenly Ring diagram (see Chapter 1)

✓

Earthly Ring diagram (see Chapter 1)

✓

Sexagenary Cycle Chart (see Chapter 1)

✓

JieQi Tables 1–12 (see Appendix)

✓

Using the Gregorian Calendar in Day Pillar Calculations table (see Chapter 1)

1
Master Zhongxian Wu and Dr Karin Taylor Wu (2016) *Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches—TianGan DiZhi: The Heart of Chinese Wisdom Traditions*. London: Singing Dragon.

2
Master Zhongxian Wu (2017) *Seeking the Spirit of The Book of Change: 8 Days to Mastering a Shamanic Yijing (I Ching) Prediction System*. London: Singing Dragon.

3
Master Zhongxian Wu (2008) *Vital Breath of the Dao: Chinese Shamanic Tiger Qigong—Laohu Gong*. London: Singing Dragon.

4

The DiTianSui 滴天髓, or “One Drop of Heavenly Marrow,” is a Chinese astrology classic written by Song Dynasty (960–1279 CE) Yijing Master JingTu 京圖.

1
CALCULATE THE FOUR PILLARS (SIZHU 四柱)/ EIGHT CHARACTERS (BAZI 八字)

The Hall Prayer for Good Harvests, Temple of Heaven, Beijing, China
Photo by Luis Castañeda

Onward, fellow seekers, let us begin!

Define the BaZi Year

To understand why the BaZi year does not begin on 1 January, you need to remember that the Chinese calendar is a lunisolar calendar that tracks the cyclical movements and energetic patterns of several things at once. The BaZi Year Pillar is not calculated from midnight on 1 January to 23:59 on 31 December (as it is in the solar-based Gregorian calendar), nor is it calculated from Chinese New Year's Day to Chinese New Year's Eve (which is based on the lunar calendar). Rather, with respect to our BaZi practice, the calendar "begins" with LiChun 立春 (the beginning of spring). LiChun, or the exact moment that the sun reaches the celestial longitude of 315°, typically occurs on 4 or 5 February each year by the Gregorian (solar) calendar.[1]

The BaZi year begins with LiChun (the beginning of spring) each year. The LiChun is also the beginning (Jie) of the energetic month of February each year.

EXAMPLE

The BaZi year for 2016 begins with the LiChun, 4 February 2016 at 17:45 (Beijing Standard Time—please remember to modify the LiChun time to the local time of the birth in question), and lasts until 3 February 2017 at 23:33 (see JieQi Table for February at the end of this section). Sample exercises at the end of the next section will help you get used to thinking of the year being marked LiChun to LiChun.

JieQi versus LiChun

In Chinese cosmology, the year is demarcated by 24 solar segments called JieQi 節氣, which essentially pinpoint the beginning and middle of each month. As you may have guessed, in this system the beginning and middle of each month are not the first and fifteenth day at the stroke of midnight. Knowing the exact moment these solar segments shift will be important in your future calculations. For this reason, I have compiled the beginning (Jie 節) and the middle (Qi 氣) markers of each month (from 1924 to 2031) in 12 separate JieQi tables (which may be found in the Appendix). The tables are numbered, starting with December, which is numerically considered to be the first month with respect to the Earthly Branches.

The numerical order of the months will also be important in your future calculations. Eventually, you will likely memorize the order of the months. In fact, you can start now:

1. Zi 子 2. Chou 丑 3. Yin 寅 4. Mao 卯 5. Chen 辰 6. Si 巳 7. Wu 午 8. Wei 未 9. Shen 申 10. You 酉 11. Xu 戌 12. Hai 亥

The LiChun, or beginning of the energetic year, is found in the table entitled “JieQi February: 1924–2031” (which may be found on the next page). In February, the Jie, or beginning of the energetic month, is also the LiChun, or beginning of the energetic year.

JieQi February: 1924–2031

				2000–2005				

			2000					
			4 Feb 23:07					
			19 Feb 21:40					
			2001					
			4 Feb 05:08					
			19 Feb 03:47					
			2002					
			4 Feb 11:07					
			19 Feb 09:52					
			2003					
			4 Feb 17:02					
			19 Feb 15:29					
			2004					
			4 Feb 22:20					
			19 Feb 20:37					
			2005					
			4 Feb 04:27					
			20 Feb 02:07					
			2006					
			4 Feb 10:03					
			19 Feb 08:50					
			2007					
			4 Feb 15:08					
			19 Feb 13:49					
			2008					
			5 Feb 21:58					
			19 Feb 19:29					
			2009					
			4 Feb 03:27					
			18 Feb 21:03					
			2010					
			4 Feb 09:27					
			19 Feb 07:25					
			2011					
			4 Feb 15:52					
			19 Feb 13:08					

Calculate the BaZi Year Pillar

Find the Year Pillar

The basic formula for calculating the Year Pillar is straightforward.

You simply need to call on your basic arithmetic skills from elementary school (namely, how to do long division), refer to the Sexagenary Cycle Chart, and, once in a while, if necessary, consult the appropriate JieQi chart.

Sexagenary Cycle? The Sexagenary Cycle is the chronological sequence of 60 total Stem-Branch combinations that has been used for recording time in daily and yearly increments since at least the 2nd century BCE.2 I have created an easy-to-read tabulated Sexagenary Cycle for your use in this book.

The Year Pillar Formula

To find the Year Pillar (YP), find the integer remainder of the quotient of the year of birth divided by 60, and then subtract 3.

Year Pillar Calculation Formula

YP = R – 3

where R = integer remainder of (birth year / 60)

When R = 0, BaZi YP = (birth year / 60) – 3

If birthday is in January or early February, take LiChun into consideration

In your calculation, when the birth year happens to be a multiple of 60 (meaning there is no remainder, or R = 0), simply subtract 3 from the quotient (birth year divided by 60) and find the correlating number on the Sexagenary Cycle Chart.

When the birthday occurs in January or early February of any given year, double check the JieQi chart and make adjustments to the birth year as needed.

Please remember! The Year, Month, Hour, and Day Pillars are each made up of two characters, a Stem and a Branch. For each Pillar, the Stem is always written first, followed by the Branch.

Common Questions about Long Division

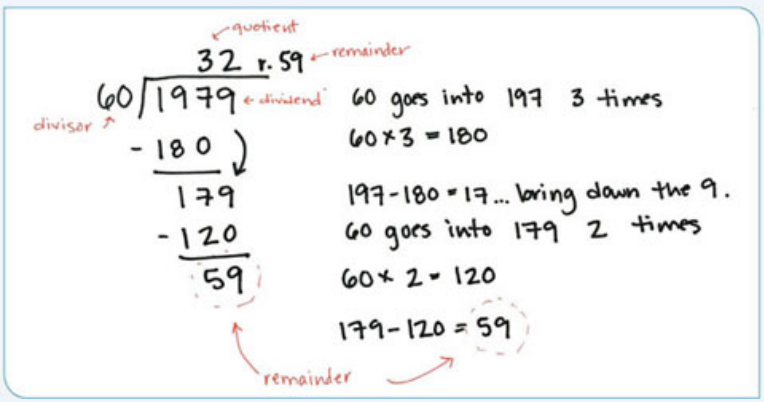
1. Um…long division?

For some, elementary school arithmetic was long filed away somewhere in the dustiest recesses of their brain. Fret not, sweet friends, it's pretty easy. You will need this skill to calculate every

astrology chart you compile. You can think of this simple math as a warm-up for your brain. Once we get deeper into creating and analyzing the chart, we will need our minds to be sharp, clear, and limber. It may even be that the benefits of doing old-fashioned math spill over into your daily life in other ways. There is a clear body of evidence that shows mental stimulation produces positive changes in memory and cognition—yay for neuroplasticity!

For those of you who may need it, here is just a quick reminder of what long division looks like when you write it out by hand:

1979 ÷ 60 (i.e. 1979 / 60):



Quick review on long division

2. I'm still confused—I keep getting an answer with a decimal point!

This is because you are using a calculator and not actually doing long division.

If you are resisting putting pen to paper and prefer to use the calculator on your smart phone, you can try this method:

Enter in 1979 ÷ 60 = 32.933333333333

In this case, the decimals of the answer are unimportant—we are looking for the integer (whole number) remainder, and to find it we use the whole number quotient (answer).

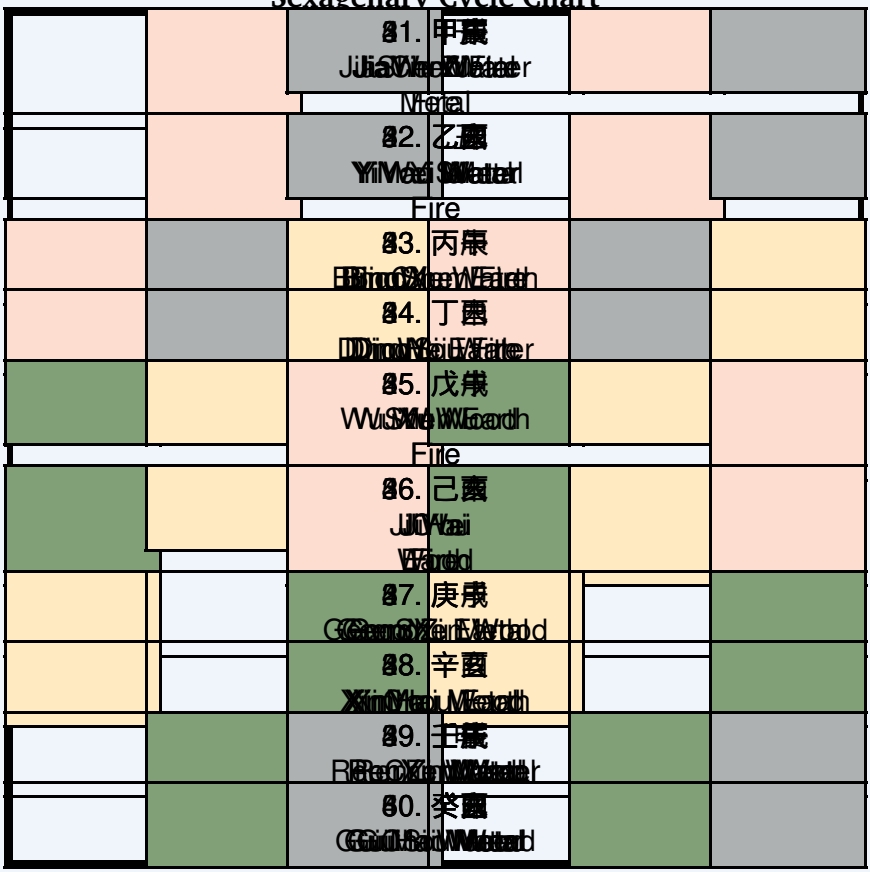
So, disregarding the decimals, your answer is 32 (don't round up). In other words, 60 goes into 1979 32 times.

Next you'll need to multiply 32 × 60 = 1920

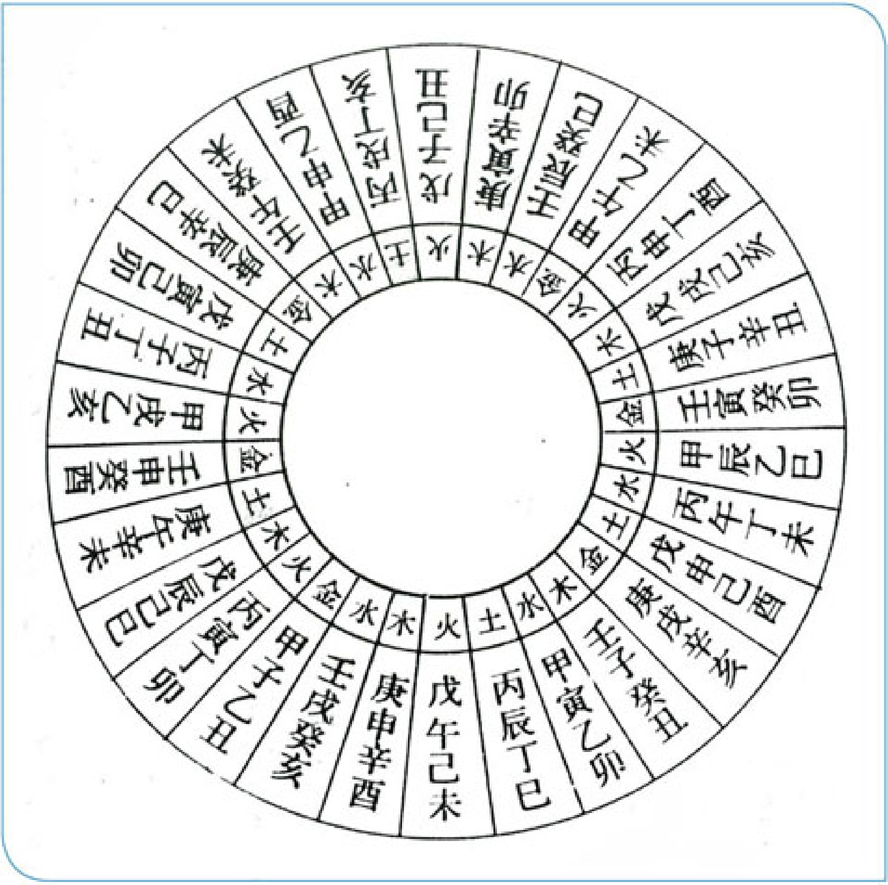
To find the remainder, subtract 1920 from 1979 and you get 59 (1979 – 1920 = 59).

Plug R = 59 into the YP equation and proceed.

Sexagenary Cycle Chart



For those of you who are ambitious enough to puzzle out how to read (and use) the traditional Sexagenary Cycle diagram, I have included one for you!



Traditional Sexagenary Cycle Diagram

Sample Exercise 1

Find the Year Pillar: 18 November 1979 ♀

Use the formula above and the Sexagenary Cycle Chart below to find the Year Pillar. Note that you always need to indicate whether your client is male (♂) or female (♀)—more on this later.

YP = R – 3

R = 1979 / 60…through the process of long division you discovered that 60 goes into 1979 32 times, with a remainder of 59.

Thus, R = 59

YP = 59 – 3

YP = 56

Now look in the Sexagenary Cycle Chart to find the Stem/Branch pair in the box numbered “56.” This is the Year Pillar, JiWei 己未.

Practice Exercise 1

Find the Year Pillar for our 13 friends below. The answers to all practice exercises can be found in the Appendix.

1.
7 July 2002 @ 00:38 ♀
2.
31 December 2006 @ 06:05 ♂
3.
5 February 1924 @ 09:49 ♀
4.
16 September 1960 @ 00:00 ♂
5.
25 January 1996 @ 10:46 ♀
6.
18 April 1979 @ 23:30 ♀
7.
7 November 1985 @ 23:11 ♂
8.
20 March 1937 @ 09:37 ♀
9.
5 May 1975 @ 15:12 ♂
10.
16 June 1949 @ 16:53 ♀
11.
14 August 2011 @ 22:45 ♂
12.
5 February 1924 @ 09:48 ♀
13.
9 October 1957 @ 14:47 ♂

Sample Exercise 2

Find the Year Pillar: 26 July 1980 ♀

YP = R – 3
1980 / 60 = 33
(1980 is perfectly divisible by 60—60 x 33 = 1980. There is no remainder.)
YP = 60 – 3
YP = 57

The Year Pillar is GengShen 庚申.

Sample Exercise 3

Find the Year Pillar: 3 February 1994 ♂

By the Gregorian calendar, this February birthday is in 1994. However,

by 3 February, the 1994 LiChun has not yet occurred and thus this GanZhi pair is still a part of the 1993 LiChun.

YP = "R" of (1993 / 60) – 3
YP = 13 – 3
YP = 10

The Year Pillar is GuiYou 癸酉.

Sample Exercise 4

Find the Year Pillar: 12 February 1994 ♀
The 1994 LiChun has occurred…proceed as usual.

YP = "R" of (1994 / 60) – 3
YP = 14 – 3
YP = 11

The Year Pillar is JiaXu 甲戌.

Year Pillar Calculation

To find the Year Pillar (YP), find the integer remainder of the quotient of the year of birth divided by 60, and then subtract 3. Look this number up in the Sexagenary Cycle Chart.

YP Formula: YP = R of (BY / 60) – 3
YP = Year Pillar
R = Whole number remainder
BY = Birth Year

Places students may take a misstep:

- The remainder is always an integer (in other words, it is a whole number, do not round up or down).
- The remainder is found using long division.
- When the birth year is divisible by 60, the remainder, R, is 0.
- If the birth month falls on January or February, take LiChun into consideration (see Sample Exercise 3).

Define the BaZi Month

As mentioned previously, the BaZi calendar is divided into 24 JieQi ("solar segments") that characterize 24 distinct energetic patterns of the yearly cycle. Each segment lasts approximately 15 days. In a BaZi month there is one Jie, which marks the beginning of the month, and

one Qi, which marks the middle of the month. With respect to the BaZi calendar, the first day of the first month is approximately 7 December each year (see JieQi Table 1 for December in the Appendix). Likewise, the energetic “first” of the month in the remaining months of the year actually falls somewhere in the first week of that month, as according to the Gregorian calendar. For your convenience, I have created a table listing the Jie (monthly start) of each Earthly Branch (see the next page). The day in the Jie/Month Start column is an approximate estimate; it could be 1–2 days different from the chart each year.

Earthly Branches: Jie/Month Start

Earthly Branch	Jie/Month Start
子	7 December
丑	6 January
寅	4 February
卯	6 March
辰	6 April
巳	6 May
午	6 June
未	7 July
申	8 August
酉	8 September
戌	8 October
亥	8 November

Calculate the BaZi Month Pillar

Find the Month Branch

In general, in order to calculate the Earthly Branch representing the birth month, you need only refer to the “Earthly Branches: Jie/Month Start” table above. If you are calculating the BaZi for a person whose birthday falls very close to the date listed in the table (plus or minus two days), please double check the more detailed JieQi tables in the Appendix for the exact time of the Jie (monthly start) for the month in question.

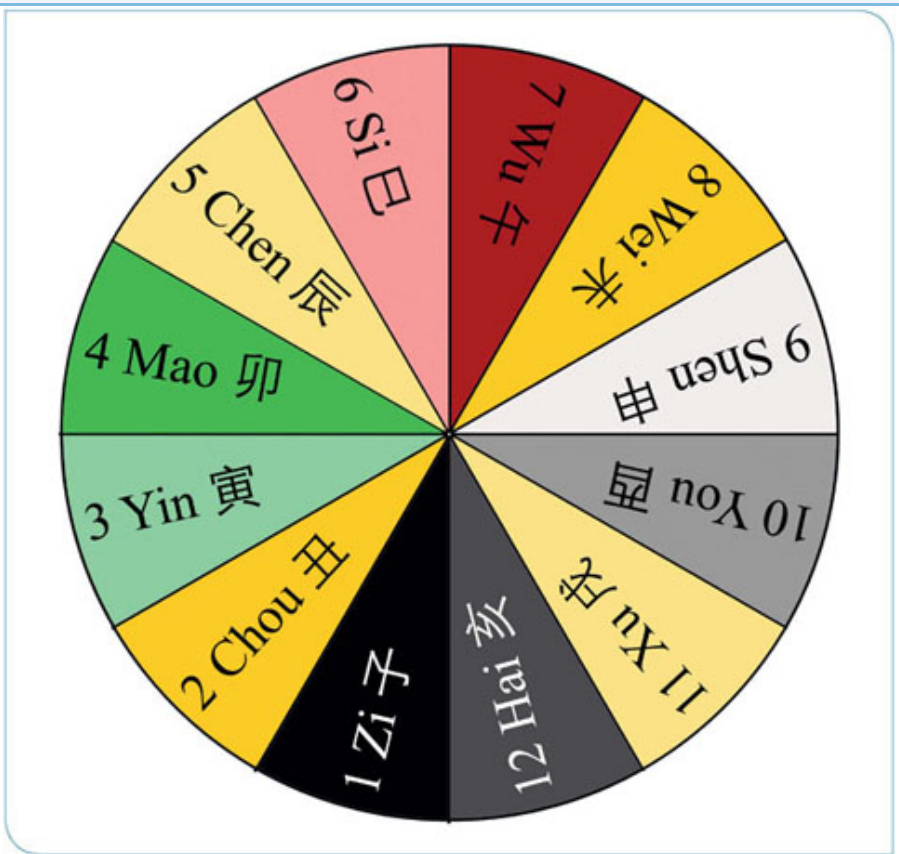
The Month Branch Formula

The Month Branch is simply the numerical order number of the birth Month Branch. To find the Month Branch, you will need to memorize the numerical order of the Earthly Branches. You will find this information in several places:

1.
In the following convenient list:
Zi 子 Chou 丑 Yin 寅 Mao 卯 Chen 辰 Si 巳 Wu 午 Wei 未 Shen 申 You 酉 Xu 戌 Hai 亥.
2.
In the Earthly Ring diagram below.
3.
In the Earthly Branch Hand Mudra Diagram, which, when superimposed on your own hand, becomes a handy memorization/calculation tool that will (likely) be with you always.

Month Branch Calculation Formula

MB = #MB



Earthly Ring

Earthly Branch Hand Mudra Diagram

Sample Exercise 5

Find the Month Branch for a female whose birthday is 12 December 1945 at 10:57.

We see from the “Earthly Branches: Jie/Month Start” table on the next page that the Jie of December is usually around 7 December each year.

The Month Branch is Zi 子.

Sample Exercise 6A

Find the Month Branch for a male whose birthday is 8 December 1926 at 04:30.

As this birthday falls within two days of the average Jie for the month of December (often 7 December), we need to double check the exact moment of this December 1926 Jie (see JieQi Table 1 for December in the Appendix).

From the table, we find that the Jie for December 1926 is 8 December at 04:38. Therefore, the Month Branch is the previous month, Hai 亥.

1926
8 Dec 04:38
22 Dec 22:33

Sample Exercise 6B

Find the Month Branch for a male whose birthday is on 8 December 1926 at 04:30 GMT (Greenwich Mean Time). From the JieQi table we see that the JieQi is 04:38 (Beijing time).

GMT is Beijing time minus 8. Adjust the JieQi time by subtracting 8 hours (04:38 – 8 = 20:30 GMT, the previous day, 7 December 1926). 20:30 GMT 7 December 1926 is the GMT JieQi. This birthday occurs after the Jie. Therefore, the month Branch is Zi 子.

Find the Month Stem

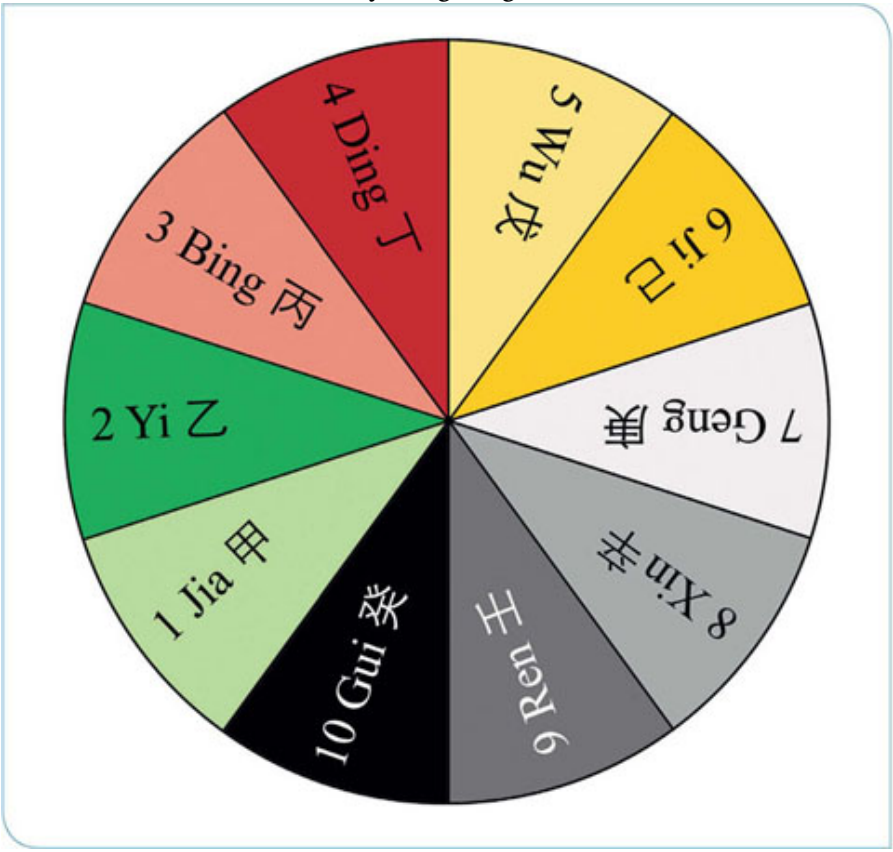
As with the Earthly Branches, calculating the Month Stem will be much easier if you go ahead and memorize the numerical order of the Heavenly Stems. Again, there are a few ways to go about this:

1. Memorize this list: Jia 甲 Yi 乙 Bing 丙 Ding 丁 Wu 戊 Ji 己

Geng 庚 Xin 辛 Ren 壬 Gui 癸.

2.

Memorize the Heavenly Ring diagram below.



Heavenly Ring

The Month Stem Formula

To find the Month Stem (MS), multiply the numerical order number of the Year Stem (YS) by two, then add the numerical order number of the Month Branch (MB, as seen in the Earthly Ring diagram) and subtract 2. If the final answer is greater than 10, keep subtracting 10 until the answer is less than or equal to 10 (this is because there are only 10 Heavenly Stems to choose from).

So far so good—but there is an exception to this general rule. For the months Zi 子 and Chou 丑 *do not deduct 2* from the equation!

Month Stem Calculation Formula

MS = (#YS × 2) + #MB − 2*

If result > 10, subtract 10 (until the result is ≤ 10)
* Do not subtract 2 if MB is Zi 子 or Chou 丑

Sample Exercise 7

Find the Month Pillar for a female whose birthday is 18 July 1942 at 17:57.

First, find the Year Pillar:

YP = R – 3
YP = "R" of (1942 / 60) – 3
YP = 22 – 3
YP = 19

The Year Pillar is RenWu 壬午.

The Year Stem (YS) is Ren 壬, which is number 9 on the Heavenly Ring diagram. You will need this number for the next equation.

MS = (#YS × 2) + #MB – 2
MS = (9 × 2) + 8 – 2
MS = 18 + 6 = 24 (answer is greater than 10; keep subtracting 10 until the number is less than 10)
MS = 4
(Please remember to find the MB numerical order number from the Earthly Ring diagram. In this case, MB = #8)

The Month Stem is Ding 丁 (#4).

The Month Pillar is DingWei 丁未.

Practice Exercise 2

Find the Month Pillar for our 13 friends below.

1.
7 July 2002 @ 00:38 ♀
2.
31 December 2006 @ 06:05 ♂
3.
5 February 1924 @ 09:49 ♀
4.
16 September 1960 @ 00:00 ♂
5.
25 January 1996 @ 10:46 ♀ (remember the exception!)
6.
18 April 1979 @ 23:30 ♀
7.
7 November 1985 @ 23:11 ♂
8.

20 March 1937 @ 09:37 ♀
9.
5 May 1975 @ 15:12 ♂
10.
16 June 1949 @ 16:53 ♀
11.
14 August 2011 @ 22:45 ♂
12.
5 February 1924 @ 09:48 ♀
13.
9 October 1957 @ 14:47 ♂

Month Pillar Calculation

For this calculation, you will need to memorize the numerical order of the Earthly Branches (see Earthly Ring diagram).

To find the Month Stem (MS), multiply the numerical order number of the Year Stem (#YS) by 2, then add the numerical order number of the Month Branch (#MB) and subtract 2. Exception: Do not subtract 2 if the birth month is Zi 子 or Chou 丑. If the final answer is greater than 10, keep subtracting 10 until the answer is less than or equal to 10.

MS Formula: MS = (#YS x 2) + #MB – 2*

MB Formula: MB = #MB

MP = Month Pillar

MS = Month Stem

MB = Month Branch

#YS = Year Stem numerical order number (see Heavenly Ring diagram)

#MB = Month Branch numerical order number (see Earthly Ring diagram)

Places students may take a misstep:

- If the birth date falls within one or two days of the "Earthly Branches: Jie/Month Start" table, please check the appropriate JieQi table (see Appendix) for a more accurate "month start" time (see Sample Exercise 6).
- *Do not subtract 2 if the month branch is Zi 子 or Chou 丑 (see Practice Exercise 2, question 5).
-

If the result is > 10, subtract 10 until the result is ≤10 (see Sample Exercise 7).

Define the BaZi Day

For this book, I have been able to neatly fit the repeating cycles of 60, 12, and 10 into concise and convenient reference charts for you to use. However, it is not possible for me to create such a chart for the Day Stem and Branch combinations/patterns. Why is this? Please remember that archeological evidence suggests that the Chinese GanZhi BaZi calendar began more than 4700 years ago. In order to create a chart that would help you find the Stem/Branch combination on the day you were born, I would have to create a chart that began more than 4700 years ago and keep track of the Day Stem/Branch patterns for almost 5000 years, which would be neither concise nor convenient.

Alternatively, I will share with you the calculation method. After the calculation is completed, cross-reference your answer with the Sexagenary Cycle Chart to find the Day Stem. Keep in mind that the BaZi day begins at 23:00 (as opposed to midnight) and ends the following day at 22:59.

Calculate the BaZi Day Pillar

Find the Day Pillar

Some people find that calculating the Day Pillar is the most challenging of the BaZi calculations. This is not because the calculation itself is difficult, but rather that there are a few places within the formula that are easy to get mixed up:

1. For this calculation, keep in mind that there are two schools of thought regarding the “beginning” of the BaZi day:
    a. In Chinese wisdom traditions, each day is considered to begin at 23:00, with the “Zi 子 hour” (two-hour segment of time), and end the following day at 22:59. According to this system, for a person who is born at 23:01 on 15 November we would actually use 16 November (birthdate + 1) as the day of birth during the Day Stem calculation.
    b. However, BaZi practitioners often use what is known as the “early Zi 子 method” in the Day Stem calculations. Clinically, this method generates a more accurate reading.

This method makes intuitive sense to those of us most familiar with the Gregorian calendar—we consider the second hour of "Zi子" (00:00–00:59) to be after midnight, or when each new day begins. For example, when using the early Zi 子 method for a person who is born at 23:01 on 15 November, we do not make any adjustments and simply use 15 November as the day of birth during the Day Stem calculation.

Please note that the early Zi 子 method is used only during the Day Stem calculation formula!

2.

In this calculation, we consider March as the start of the year. We will calculate the Day Stem of anyone born in the new Gregorian year but before March (in other words, those born in January or February) using the previous year. For example, if a person is born on 9 February 1974, you will calculate their Day Stem using 1973 as the birth year.

3.

In China, a "big month" refers to any month that has 31 days. Calculating the number of "big months passed" is simply counting how many 31-day months have occurred between March and the birth month in question. For example, the number of big months passed for someone born in March is 0; the number of big months passed for someone born in June is 2 (March and May); the number of big months passed for someone born in September is 4 (March, May, July, and August); the big months passed for someone born in February is 7 (March, May, July, August, October, December, and January), and so on.

4.

In this calculation we also use the standard Gregorian number of the order of months in order to distinguish the oddly numbered months (1 = January, 3 = March, 5 = May, 7 = July, 9 = September, 11 = November) from the evenly numbered months (2 = February, 4 = April, 6 = June, 8 = August, 10 = October, 12 = December).

The Day Pillar Formula

Keeping all that in mind, we are now ready for the calculation! The first number we need to plug in to the formula has to do with the birth year, "Y." If the person is born at any time during the 1900s, Y

will be the last two digits of the birth year. If the person is born in the 2000s, Y will be the last two digits of the birth year, plus 100.

Next we look for the sum of: Y multiplied by 5; Y divided by 4; the number 9; the numerical day of birth; the number of big months passed; and either 0 or 30, depending on whether the birth month is an oddly or evenly numbered month. Divide the total sum by 60. The answer, "R," is the whole number remainder (yes, you get to practice your long division again!). Find "R" on the Sexagenary Cycle Chart to get the Day Pillar.

Voila!

Day Pillar Calculation Formula

DP = R of [(*Y × 5) + (*Y / 4) + 9 + *D + BM + I] / 60

Where R = remainder

Y = last two digits of the year (if year is 1900–1999)

Y = last two digits of the year + 100 (if year is 2000–present)

*Y = Y – 1 if birth month is January or February

*D = the day of birth (I recommend using the "early Zi 子 method" when applicable)

BM = the number of "big months" passed, starting in March

Note: "Big months" = all months that have 31 days

I = 30 if the month is an "even" month (using the Gregorian calendar number system)

I = 0 if the month is an "odd" month (using the Gregorian calendar number system)

The following table will be helpful when using the Gregorian calendar in Day Pillar calculations.

Using the Gregorian Calendar in Day Pillar Calculations

DP = R of [(Y ⋅ 5) + (Y / 4) + 9 + D + BM + I] / 60

Big months passed						
January	Year – 1					
February	Year – 1					
March	Year					
April	Year					
May	Year					
June	Year					
July	Year					
August	Year					
September	Year					

October	16th					
November	9th					
December	16th					

* Another way to remember the "Big months" is to relate them to the (Gregorian) month number: BM = 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, and 12

Sample Exercise 8

Find the Day Pillar for a male whose birthday is 26 April 1945 at 09:17.

DP = R of [(Y × 5) + (Y / 4) + 9 + D + BM + I] / 60
DP = R of [(45 × 5) + (45 / 4) + 9 + 26 + 1 + 30] / 60
DP = R of (225 + 11 + 9 + 26 + 1 + 30) / 60
DP = R of (302 / 60)
DP = 2

The Day Pillar is YiChou 乙丑.

Sample Exercise 9

Find the Day Pillar for a female whose birthday is 9 September 2005 at 23:45.

DP = R of [(Y × 5) + (Y / 4) + 9 + D + BM + I] / 60
DP = R of [(105 × 5) + (105 / 4) + 9 + 9 + 4 + 0] / 60
DP = R of (525 + 26 + 9 + 9 + 4 + 0) / 60
DP = R of (573 / 60)
DP = 33

The Day Pillar is BingShen 丙申.

> Remember: Use the early Zi 子 method when plugging in "D"!

Sample Exercise 10

Find the Day Pillar for a male whose birthday is 22 January 2013 at 03:37.

DP = R of [(Y × 5) + (Y / 4) + 9 + D + BM + I] / 60
DP = R of [(112 × 5) + (112 / 4) + 9 + 22 + 6 + 0] / 60
DP = R of (560 + 28 + 9 + 22 + 6 + 0) / 60
DP = R of (625 / 60)
DP = 25

The Day Pillar is WuZi 戊子.

> Remember: We consider March as the first month of the year for this part of the calculation!

Practice Exercise 3

Find the Day Pillar for our 13 friends below.

1.
7 July 2002 @ 00:38 ♀
2.
31 December 2006 @ 06:05 ♂
3.
5 February 1924 @ 09:49 ♀
4.
16 September 1960 @ 00:00 ♂
5.
25 January 1996 @ 10:46 ♀
6.
18 April 1979 @ 23:30 ♀
7.
7 November 1985 @ 23:11 ♂
8.
20 March 1937 @ 09:37 ♀
9.
5 May 1975 @ 15:12 ♂
10.
16 June 1949 @ 16:53 ♀
11.
14 August 2011 @ 22:45 ♂
12.
5 February 1924 @ 09:48 ♀
13.
9 October 1957 @ 14:47 ♂

Day Pillar Calculation

To calculate the Day Pillar, find the sum of: Y multiplied by 5; Y divided by 4; the number 9; the numerical day of birth; the number of big months passed; and either 0 or 30, depending on whether the birth month is an oddly or evenly numbered month (see Using the Gregorian Calendar in Day Pillar Calculations). Divide the total sum by 60. The answer, "R," is the whole number remainder. Find "R" on the Sexagenary Cycle Chart to get the Day Pillar.

DP Formula: DP = R of [(*Y x 5) + (*Y / 4) + 9 + *D + BM + I] / 60

DP = Day Pillar

R = Remainder

*Y = last two digits of the birth year (if born 1900–1999)
*Y = last two digits of the birth year + 100 (if born 2000–present)
**Y = Y – 1 when the person is born in January or February
*D = day of birth (for clinical accuracy, I recommend using the "early Zi 子 method"; see Sample Exercise 9)
BM = number of big months passed (see Day Pillar and Gregorian Calendar table)
I = 30 if the month is "even" and I = 0 if the month is "odd" (see Using the Gregorian Calendar in Day Pillar Calculations)

Places students may take a misstep:

- The remainder is always an integer (in other words, it is a whole number, do not round up or down).
- The remainder is found using long division.
- ** In this calculation, we consider March the first month of the year. As such, if a person is born in January or February, remember that Y = Y – 1 (see Sample Exercise 10).
- For clinical accuracy, please determine the day of birth using the "early Zi 子 method" (see Sample Exercise 9).

Define the BaZi Hour

In China, the 24-hour day is traditionally defined as 12 two-hour segments. Accordingly, for everything but the Day Stem calculation of our BaZi practice, we consider the first "hour" of the day to be the period 23:00–00:59. Please remember that the "early Zi 子 method" discussed in the Day Pillar calculation is *not* used when finding the Hour Pillar.

One of the easiest places for a misstep when calculating the BaZi hour is forgetting to take Daylight Saving Time (DST) into consideration. DST is the somewhat controversial practice, adopted by approximately 40 percent of the world's countries, of setting the clocks ahead (typically by one hour, although this is not always the case) in the spring and setting them back again in the fall.

If you are calculating the BaZi for someone born during DST, please verify the start or end date of DST of their birth year and adjust the birth time to standard time accordingly.

Calculate the BaZi Hour Pillar

Find the Hour Branch

Finding the Hour Branch is straightforward. Like the Month Branch, the Hour Branch is simply the numerical order of that Branch. The numerical order of the Earthly Branches is found in the Earthly Ring diagram—perhaps you have already memorized this order?

Hour Branch Calculation Formula

HB = #HB

Use the Day Stem to Find the Hour Stem/The Hour Stem Formula

Calculating the Hour Stem is similar to calculating the Month Stem. First, find the Day Stem. Take the Day Stem numerical order number (from the Heavenly Ring diagram), multiply it by 2, and then add the Hour Branch numerical order number (#HB) and subtract 2. If the answer is larger than 10, subtract 10.

Hour Stem Calculation Formula

HS = (#DS × 2) + #HB – 2

If number > 10, subtract 10

Remember to take Daylight Saving Time into consideration!

Sample Exercise 11

Find the Hour Branch for a female whose birthday is 17 August 2013 at 02:42.

HB = 02:42

HB = Chou 丑 (#2)

In this case, there is no need to adjust for DST by subtracting an hour (from 02:42 to 01:42), as it would not change the hour of birth according to the two-hour segment of the Chinese clock (01:00–03:00).

Earthly Branch and Time of Day

Earthly Branch	Time of Day
子	23:00–00:59
丑	01:00–02:59
寅	03:00–04:59
卯	05:00–06:59

07:00–08:59	辰
09:00–10:59	巳
11:00–12:59	午
13:00–14:59	未
15:00–16:59	申
17:00–18:59	酉
19:00–20:59	戌
21:00–22:59	亥

Sample Exercise 12

Find the Hour Stem for the same female (17 August 2013 at 02:42).
First, find the Day Stem:

DP = R of [(Y × 5) + (Y / 4) + 9 + D + BM + I] / 60
DP = R of [(113 × 5) + (113 / 4) + 9 + 17 + 3 + 30] / 60
DP = R of (565 + 28 + 9 + 17 + 3 + 30) / 60
DP = R of 652 / 60
DP = 52
DP = YiMao 乙卯

The Day Stem is Yi 乙 (#2).
Next, find the Hour Stem:

HS = (#DS × 2) + #HB – 2
HS = (2 × 2) + 2 – 2
HS = 4 + 2 – 2
HS = 4
HS = Ding 丁

The Hour Stem is Ding 丁.
The Hour Pillar is DingChou 丁丑.

Practice Exercise 4

Find the Hour Pillar for our 13 friends below (don't forget to check for Daylight Saving Time!).

1. 7 July 2002 @ 00:38 ♀
2. 31 December 2006 @ 06:05 ♂
3. 5 February 1924 @ 09:49 ♀
4. 16 September 1960 @ 00:00 ♂
5. 25 January 1996 @ 10:46 ♀

6.
18 April 1979 @ 23:30 ♀
7.
7 November 1985 @ 23:11 ♂
8.
20 March 1937 @ 09:37 ♀
9.
5 May 1975 @ 15:12 ♂
10.
16 June 1949 @ 16:53 ♀
11.
14 August 2011 @ 22:45 ♂
12.
5 February 1924 @ 09:48 ♀
13.
9 October 1957 @ 14:47 ♂

Hour Pillar Calculation

The Hour Branch (HB) is simply the numerical order number of the Branch in question (see Earthly Ring diagram).

To calculate the Hour Stem (HS), you must first find the Day Stem. Then, take the Day Stem numerical order number (see Heavenly Ring diagram), multiply it by 2, add the Hour Branch numerical order number (#HB) and subtract 2. If the answer is larger than 10, subtract 10.

HB Formula: HB = #HB

HS Formula: HS = (#DS x 2) + #HB – 2

HB = Hour Branch

#HB = Hour Branch numerical order number (see Earthly Ring diagram)

HS = Hour Stem

#DS = Day Stem numerical order number (see Heavenly Ring diagram)

Places students may take a misstep:

- Remember to take Daylight Saving Time into consideration.
- If number calculated when finding HS is >10, subtract 10.
-

Do not use the early Zi 子 method in this calculation.

Calculate the SiZhu/BaZi

Sample Exercise 13

Using all your new BaZi skills, calculate the SiZhu/BaZi of the female born on 18 November 1979 at 09:23.

1. Find the Year Pillar
   YP = R of (1979 / 60) – 3
   YP = 59 – 3
   YP = 56
   YP = JiWei 己未
2. Find the Month Pillar
   MS = (#YS × 2) + #MB – 2
   MS = 12 + 12 – 2
   MS = 24 – 2
   MS = 22 – 10 – 10
   MS = 2
   MS = Yi 乙
   MB = Hai 亥
   MP = YiHai 乙亥
3. Find the Day Pillar
   DP = R of [(Y × 5) + (Y / 4) + 9 + D + BM + I] / 60
   DP = R of [(79 × 5) + (79 / 4) + 9 + 18 + 5 + 0] / 60
   DP = R of (395 + 19 + 9 + 18 + 5 + 0) / 60
   DP = R of (446 / 60)
   DP = 26
   DP = JiChou 己丑
4. Find the Hour Pillar
   HS = (#DS × 2) + #HB – 2
   HS = (6 × 2) + 6 – 2
   HS = 12 + 4
   HS = 16 – 10
   HS = 6
   HS = Ji 己
   HB = #HB
   HB = Si 巳
   HP = JiSi 己巳

SiZhu/BaZi
   JiWei 己未
   YiHai 乙亥

JiChou 己丑
JiSi 己巳

The following is the basic BaZi chart I created for my own astrology practice. I will use this format (and build upon it) for the rest of the book. For those of you who are comfortable bringing the Hidden Stems into your interpretation skills, I have included them in the chart. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the concept of the Hidden Stems, it is a good idea to start associating each Branch with their Hidden Stem(s) now!

Basic BaZi Chart Example

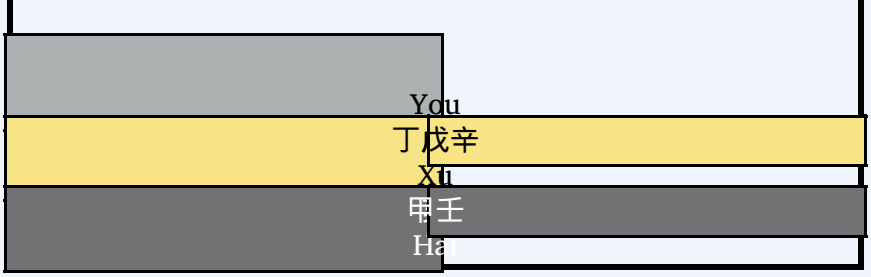
♀

18 November 1979 @ 09:23

	Hidden	
丙 戊庚		

Earthly Branches and their Hidden Stems

	癸
	Zi
己辛癸	
	Chou
甲戊丙	
	Yin
乙	
	Mao
戊癸乙	
	Chen
丙戊庚	
	Si
丁己	
	Wu
乙丁己	
	Wei
戊庚壬	
	Shen
辛	



Practice Exercise 5

Find the SiZhu/BaZi of our four friends below:

1. Janey Yin: 20 January 1966 @ 10:46 ♀
2. Janey Yang: 11 February 1944 @ 20:30 ♀
3. Johnny Yin: 3 September 1973 @ 11:02 ♂
4. Johnny Yang: 7 November 1966 @ 22:11 ♂

We will be building a complete chart for each of these four friends as we progress through the remainder of the book. Accuracy of the mechanical calculations is the foundation of a good BaZi reading. In the Appendix, I have included the worked BaZi equations of our four friends to ensure that you do not mistakenly take a wrong (and frustrating) turn while "plugging and chugging."

I strongly suggest that you make four copies of the blank BaZi Template (also found in the Appendix) so that you can fill in all the BaZi information as you work through the calculations, referring to each chart as we move forward. Downloadable templates may also be found online at www.singingdragon.com/catalogue/book/9781848193123.

What Exactly is Exact?

In this workbook, I endeavor to present what I find to be a fascinating and complex subject as simply and faithfully as I can. Now that we have waded through the bulk of the calculations, some of you may be feeling more punctilious than others, itching to adjust every client's birth time according to time zone and variations in latitude and longitude, or to make the Beijing time adjustment for every MingGong (see Chapter 3) and DaYun (see Chapter 4) you can get your hands on. While there is nothing inherently wrong with this approach, I invite you to read the following anecdote and consider the possibility that we may

strive for accuracy in our BaZi skills by learning to embrace exactitude in other ways.

DingShiChen 定時辰: Identifying the Hour Pillar

Master Zhongxian Wu

When I was a child in the early 1970s in a remote fishing village in China, we still maintained the ancient lifestyle—no electricity, no internal plumbing, no bicycles (and of course no cars), and only a narrow little hiking trail connecting the village to the outer world. Most families did not have any kind of clock and lived with the rhythms of nature to establish a sense of time. Almost all the babies were delivered at home by the village midwife. It was common for me (and other children) to be asked to run to fetch the midwife when neighbor "aunties" went into labor. As you can imagine, traditionally, it was impossible to document the exact moment of birth as has become standard practice in the developed world today.

Like travelling traders (the candy man, the popcorn man, the knife-sharpening man, the Chinese medicine man, the storyteller, to name a few) that would pass through regularly, the Yijing master would make regular rounds to the different villages in the area. These trademen were also businessmen and would shout out their unique advertising ditties, each with different words, tones, and cadences to gather attention and let us know they had returned to the village. As you may still recall the tone of the local ice cream truck from your own childhood, I vividly remember the unique songs of each vendor. I knew the Yijing master was in town again when I heard him sing, "SuanMing 算命! CeZi 測字! DingShiChen 定時辰!"

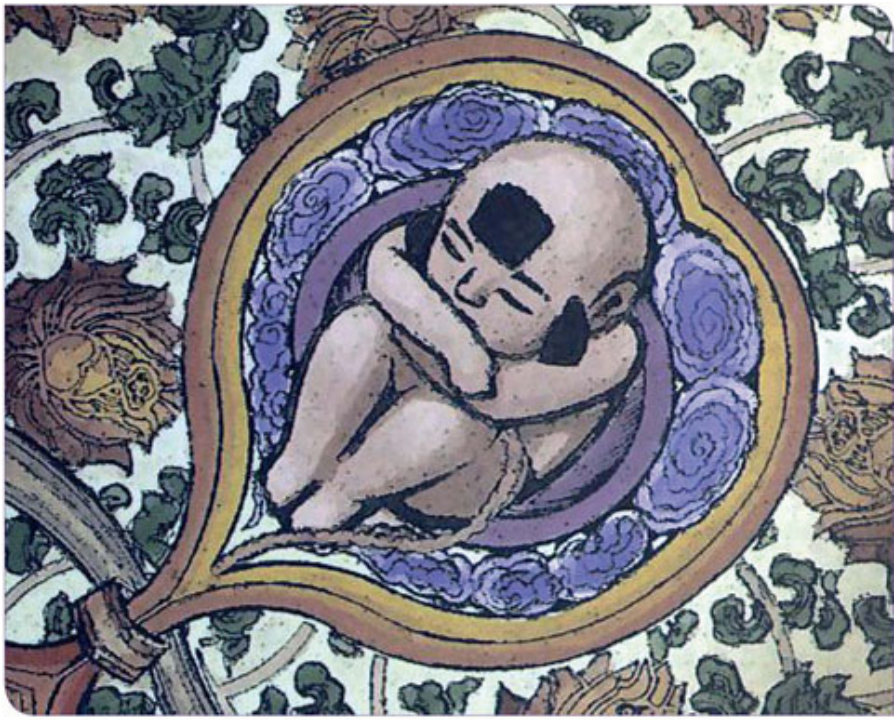
This phrase means "Calculate your karma! Analyze a character [a traditional Yijing consultation method of reading a person's hand writing]! Identify the birth hour [the GanZhi hour pillar of a newborn]!" Sought out after each birth, the Yijing master acted as a detective, puzzling out a newborn's hour pillar by asking key questions and gathering information about details of the natural world during the birth.

The BaZi has been (and still is) of vital importance in countless Chinese lives for millennia – parents preserve their children's BaZi in the family book to refer to when making important life decisions.

1
See Master Zhongxian Wu (2010) *The 12 Chinese Animals: Create Harmony in Your Daily Life through Ancient Chinese Wisdom*. London: Singing Dragon.

2
See Master Zhongxian Wu and Dr Karin Taylor Wu (2016) *Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches—TianGan DiZhi: The Heart of Chinese Wisdom Traditions.* London: Singing Dragon, pp.188–189.

TAIYUAN 胎元
ORIGIN OF CONCEPTION



Traditional Chinese prenatal blessing totem for a healthy and intelligent baby

Influence of TaiYuan

The TaiYuan 胎元, or origin of conception, represents the predominant energy influencing the moment of conception. It also relays information about how ancestral energies and genetics are influencing the chart. If you have doubts about the relative strength (i.e. balance) of the Day Stem (the key element of each BaZi chart—we'll get to this later), you can use the relationship of the Day Stem to the TaiYuan to help inform your judgment.

Calculate the TaiYuan

Find the TaiYuan Stem

You find the TaiYuan Stem by starting with the stem representing the birth month and moving forward one stem in a clockwise direction. I hope by now you have memorized the order of the Heavenly Stems.

Find the TaiYuan Branch

You find the TaiYuan Branch by starting with the branch representing the birth month and moving forward three branches in a clockwise direction.

Whirling Fingers

The traditional way to memorize the order of the Earthly Branches is to use a simple mudra cultivation/“Method of Loci” memorization technique. Use the finger creases of your left hand as “place holders” for each Earthly Branch and recite the order of the branches while using your left thumb to touch/travel around the base creases of your ring (Zi 子), middle (Chou 丑), and index (Yin 寅) fingers, then travel up the finger creases of your left index finger (Mao 卯, Chen 辰), across the tops of your index (Si 巳), middle (Wu 午), ring (Wei 未), and pinky fingers (Shen 申), and down the finger creases of your pinky finger (You 酉, Xu 戌, Hai 亥). There are 12 branches—one for each of these 12 mudras. (See the Hand Mudra diagram on the next page.)

Observe! This calculation method applies only to those who had a “normal”-length prenatal life (i.e. their mothers carried them for nine months in utero). For people who were born either prematurely (the current medical definition of premature birth is one that occurs any time before 37 completed weeks of gestation) or post-term (generally considered to be more than 42 completed weeks of gestation), please use the GanZhi calendar to check the Stem and Branch of the *conception month* when calculating TaiYuan.

TaiYuan Calculation Formula

TaiYuan = MS + 1 ⟳ and MB + 3 ⟳

Sample Exercise 14

Find the TaiYuan of a female who was born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20.

Her BaZi:

	Our Friend ♀	
	22 February 1945 @ 23:20	
	Birdeh	
	癸	

The Month Stem is Wu 戊. One step forward in a clockwise direction is Ji 己.
The Month Branch is Yin 寅. Three steps forward in a clockwise direction is Si 巳.
Her TaiYuan is JiSi 己巳.

Our Friend ♀
22 February 1945 @ 23:20

	癸	
	丙戊庚	

Practice Exercise 6

Find the TaiYuan of our friends below.
1. Janey Yin: 20 January 1966 @ 10:46 ♀
2. Janey Yang: 11 February 1944 @ 20:30 ♀
3. Johnny Yin: 3 September 1973 @ 11:02 ♂
4. Johnny Yang: 7 November 1966 @ 22:11 ♂

TaiYuan Calculation

Find the TaiYuan Stem by taking the Month Stem and moving forward one position in the Heavenly Ring diagram (in a clockwise direction).
Find the TaiYuan Branch by taking the Month Branch and moving forward three positions in the Earthly Ring diagram (in a clockwise direction).

TaiYuan MS Formula: MS + 1 ⟳
TaiYuan MB Formula: MB + 3 ⟳
MS = Month Stem
MB = Month Branch

MINGGONG 命宫
PALACE OF KARMA

Author's rendition of the classic MingGong and Chinese face-reading diagram
Calligraphy by Master Zhongxian Wu

Influence of MingGong

MingGong, the palace of your karma, offers insight into the general

trajectory of a person's life. You can think of it as a broadly influencing karmic energy, or destiny. As with TaiYuan, MingGong also affects the overall balance of the Day Stem.

Calculate the MingGong Branch

To calculate the MingGong Branch (MG B), we first need to know the numerical order of the Branches (see the Earthly Ring diagram in the Appendix). Add the Earthly Branch number of the birth month and the Branch birth hour number. Subtract this sum from 32. If the result is less than or equal to 12, you have found the answer (the number will correspond to the numerical order of the Earthly Branches). If the result is greater than 12, keep subtracting 12 from the result until your answer is less than or equal to 12.

One thing you must keep in mind while calculating the MingGong Branch is the Jie (the 24 two-week solar segments of the year). If the day of birth falls after the ZhongQi (the midpoint of the month), please add 1 to the MingGong Branch calculation. *Each time* you calculate MingGong, please reference the appropriate JieQi table to determine if the day of birth falls within the first or second half of the birth month. Remember: The times listed in the JieQi tables are in Bejing time. In the rare instances when the birth time falls very near to the JieQi, you will also need to make the Beijing time adjustment (see Sample Exercise 6B) when calculating the MingGong!

MingGong Branch Calculation Formula

MG B = 32 – [#MB + #HB (+ 1 if necessary)] *

#MB = Month Branch numerical order number

#HB = Hour Branch numerical order number

* Add 1 if the birth day falls after the ZhongQi (mid-month point)

If the answer < 12, this is the #EB MG

If the answer ≥ 12, subtract 12 to find the #EB MG

Sample Exercise 15

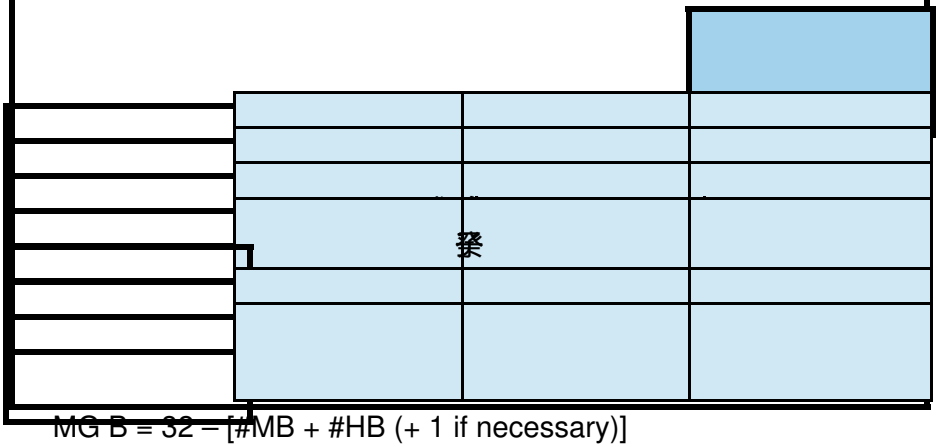
Find the MingGong Branch of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20.

First, of course, you must calculate the BaZi. Check your answers with the chart below and proceed to the formula.

Our Friend ♀

22 February 1945 @ 23:20

Birdeh



MG B = 32 – [#MB + #HB (+ 1 if necessary)]
MG B = 32 – [Yin 寅 (3) + Zi 子 (1) + 1 (she was born after the ZhongQi)]
MG B = 32 – (3 + 1 + 1)
MG B = 32 – 5
(If the answer is ≥ 12, subtract 12)
MG B = 27 – 12 – 12
MG B = #3 (Yin 寅)

Calculate the MingGong Stem—Method 1 (Formula Method)

Calculating the MingGong Stem (MG S) via the formula method will be familiar to you, as the formula is nearly the same as the one we used to calculate the Month Stem. We multiply the Year Stem numerical order number by 2, then add the MingGong Branch number and subtract 2.

MingGong Stem Calculation Formula

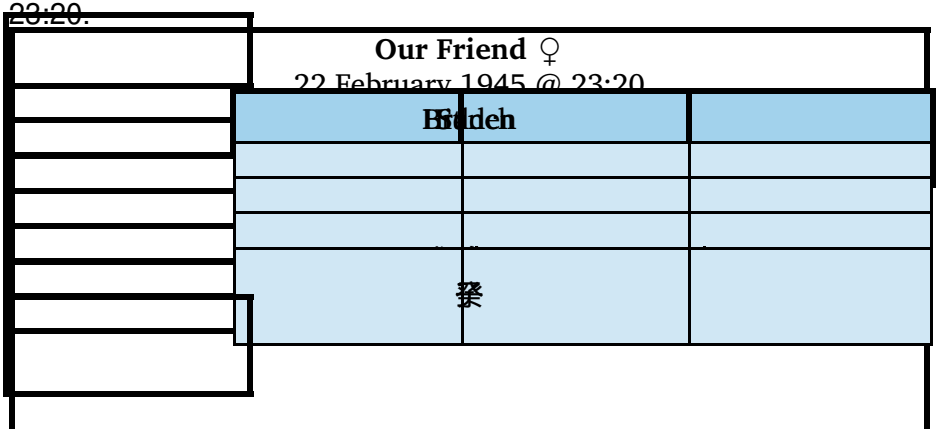
MG S = (#YS × 2) + #MG B – 2*

If result > 10, subtract 10 (until the result is ≤ 10)

* Do not subtract 2 if the Month Branch is Zi 子 or Chou 丑

Sample Exercise 16a

Find the MingGong Stem of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20.



From Sample Exercise 15, we know her Year Stem is Yi 乙 and her MG B is #3 Yin 寅.

MG S = (#YS × 2) + #MG B – 2
MG S = (2 × 2) + 3 – 2
MG S = 4 + 3 – 2
MG S = 5

The MingGong Stem is #5, Wu 戊.

Calculate the MingGong Stem—Method 2 (Traditional Method)

As the traditional method of calculating the Heavenly Stem portion of MingGong is more fun, I will include it here for you. The first step in finding the MingGong Stem (MG S) is to memorize the Earthly Branch Hand Mudra Diagram (see Chapter 1). Each branch is correlated with the finger creases on your left hand. This pattern represents the Earthly Way, and, like the energy of the earth itself, it is stable and consistent. The next step is to memorize the Heavenly Ring diagram (the numerical order of the Heavenly Stems; see Chapter 1). The Heavenly Stems are symbols of the Heavenly Way, and the energy of the heavens is ceaseless, always moving.

Next, place your left thumb on the Earthly Branch starting position Yin 寅 (the base crease of your index finger, which is the Yin position), and move clockwise around the circle while reciting the Heavenly Stem cycle. Although the order of the Stems will always be the same, the starting position of the Heavenly Stem cycle changes during this calculation, and depends on the Year Stem of the birthdate in question. In this traditional whirling finger method, you have found the MingGong Stem once you reach the position on the left hand that corresponds to the MingGong Branch.

- If the person's Year Stem is Jia 甲 or Ji 己, you will place your thumb on Yin 寅 (the base crease of your index finger) and start reciting the Heavenly Stems, beginning with Bing 丙.
- If the person's Year Stem is Yi 乙 or Geng 庚, you will place your thumb on Yin 寅 (the base crease of your index finger) and start reciting the Heavenly Stems, beginning with

Wu 戊.

•

If the person's Year Stem is Bing 丙 or Xin 辛, you will place your thumb on Yin 寅 (the base crease of your index finger) and start reciting the Heavenly Stems, beginning with Geng 庚.

•

If the person's Year Stem is Ding 丁 or Ren 壬, you will place your thumb on Yin 寅 (the base crease of your index finger) and start reciting the Heavenly Stems, beginning with Ren 壬.

•

If the person's Year Stem is Wu 戊 or Gui 癸, you will place your thumb on Yin 寅 (the base crease of your index finger) and start reciting the Heavenly Stems, beginning with Jia 甲.

MingGong Stem Formula

Use the EB Hand Method to find the HS of your Pillar HS, beginning with…

Jia 甲 or Yi 乙	Bing 丙
Yi 乙 or Bing 丙	Wu 戊
Bing 丙 or Ding 丁	Geng 庚
Ding 丁 or Wu 戊	Xin 辛
Wu 戊 or Ji 己	Ren 壬
Ji 己 or Geng 庚	Gui 癸

Move thumb ⟳, reciting HS until reaching MG B position.

Sample Exercise 16b

Find the MingGong Stem of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20, this time using Method 2.

Our Friend ♀

22 February 1945 @ 23:20

	癸	
	甲寅丙	

From Sample Exercise 15, we know her Year Stem is Yi 乙 and her MG B is #3 Yin 寅.

From the MG S rules, we know that if the Year Stem is Yi 乙, we will place our thumbs on the base crease of our index finger, and move around the mudra positions in a clockwise manner and reciting the Heavenly Stem order, beginning with Wu 戊. We will stop once we reach the Yin 寅 position, (her MG B, as determined). The corresponding stem at this stopping point is our friend's MG S.

Until you are very comfortable with the numerical order of the Heavenly Stems, you may prefer to use the Heavenly Ring diagram to help you to recite the Stems with a "different" starting point (in this case, Wu 戊). Whether you use the diagram to move through the mudras or can do it from memory, you see that when you start reciting the Stems with Wu 戊, at the Yin position, you have already arrived at the answer, Wu 戊.

Our friend's MingGong is WuYin 戊寅.

Our Friend ♀

22 February 1945 @ 23:20

	癸	
甲	戊	丙

Whirling fingers—finding the MingGong Stem using the traditional method

Brief Symbolism of the Earthly MingGong Branch

With respect to MingGong, we must always consider the YinYang and Five Element qualities of both the Stem and the Branch. However, in this book I will focus more on the MingGong Branch to help you inform your initial case analysis. Below is a quick summary table of the basic meanings of each MingGong Branch.

Earthly MingGong Branch Symbolism

ZiGong 子宮
TianGui 天貴 (Palace of Nobility)
Good will; ambitious; noble lifestyle

ChouGong 丑宮
TianE 天厄 (Palace of Challenges)
Lives far from family support; hard worker; challenging beginning often pays off with a good life

YinGong 寅宮
TianQuan 天權 (Palace of Leadership)
Smart; easy to achieve accomplishments; powerful position in middle age

MaoGong 卯宮
TianShe 天赦 (Palace of Freedom)
Less attachment to material world; great heart; high spirit; selfless compassion

ChenGong 辰宮
TianRu 天如 (Palace of Manifestation)
Smart; wise; good at designing a plan; often fickle; in general, get what they want

SiGong 巳宮
TianWen 天文 (Palace of Knowledge)
Scholarly; advances in life through education; for women, also indicates a good marriage

WuGong 午宮
TianFu 天福 (Palace of Luckiness)
Born with a silver spoon; good, relaxing life; no need to work hard

WeiGong 未宮
TianYi 天驛 (Palace of Changes)
Lives far from support of family/ancestors; hard worker; big life changes/moves a lot—typically job-related

ShenGong 申宮
TianGu 天孤 (Palace of Loneliness)
Reclusive; prefers independence; may have difficulties in married life

YouGong 酉宮
TianMi 天秘 (Palace of Mysticism)
Strong personality; direct; good ability to understand mystical cultures

XuGong 戌宮
TianYi 天藝 (Palace of Artistry)
Many talents; good ability to study the arts; genuinely friendly

HaiGong 亥宮
TianShou 天壽 (Palace of Longevity)
Good heart and spirit; always likes to help others; long life

Practice Exercise 7

Find the MingGong of our friends below.

1. Janey Yin: 20 January 1966 @ 10:46 ♀
2. Janey Yang: 11 February 1944 @ 20:30 ♀
3. Johnny Yin: 3 September 1973 @ 11:02 ♂
4. Johnny Yang: 7 November 1966 @ 22:11 ♂

MingGong Calculation

To calculate the MingGong Branch (MG B), add the Month Branch numerical order number and the Hour Branch numerical order number (see Earthly Ring diagram). Subtract this sum from 32. If the result is less than or equal to 12, this number is the MG B (the numerical order number of the Earthly Branches). If the result is greater than 12, keep subtracting 12 from the result until your answer is less than or equal to 12.

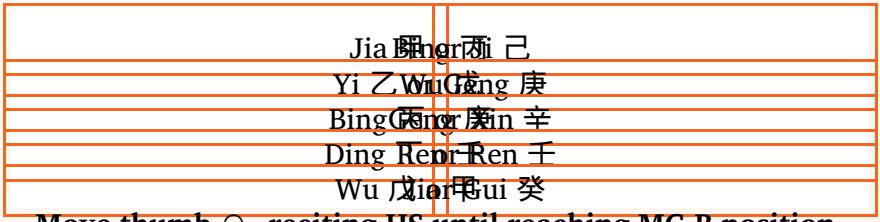
Calculate the MingGong Stem (MG S) by multiplying the Year Stem numerical order number (#YS) by 2, adding the MG B number (#MG B) and subtract 2. (Exception: Do not subtract 2 if the Month Branch is Zi 子 or Chou 丑.)

MingGong Branch Formula: MG B = 32 – [#MB + #HB time (+ 1 if necessary)]*

MingGong Stem Formula: MG S = (#YS × 2) + #MG B – 2

MG B = MingGong Branch
#MB = Month Branch numerical order number
#HB = Hour Branch numerical order number
MG S = MingGong Stem
#YS = Year Stem numerical order number
MG B = MingGong Branch numerical order number

Use the EB Hand	If MG of Year Pillar is…	Pillar HS, beginning with…



Move thumb ⟳, reciting HS until reaching MG B position.

Places students may take a misstep:

- With each MingGong, cross reference JieQi tables to determine if birth day falls within first or second half of the birth month.
- Do not subtract 2 if the Month Branch is Zi 子 or Chou 丑.
- Remember, the JieQi tables are in Bejing time. You must adjust this JieQi time to the local time of each person's birth.
- *You must add one if the birth day falls after the ZhongQi (mid-month point).
- If the answer $<$ 12, this is the #MG B.
- If the answer $\geq$ 12, subtract 12 to find the # MG B.

DAYUN 大運

GREAT TRANSFER

Landscape painting by DongQiChang 董其昌 *(1555–1636 CE)*

The shape of our lives mirrors that of the land, changing periodically, and influenced by the powers of the universe (www.aihuahua.net)

Significance of DaYun (the Luck Cycle)

DaYun means "great transfer" and tracks the sweeping energetic influences on a person's life. Commonly referred to as the "Luck Cycles" of our lives, they document ten-year cycles of energy. These Luck Cycles provide insight into how the changing pattern of universal (i.e. natural) energy exerts influence on an individual,

allowing us to predict how the general flow of energy in different areas of his or her life will be affected. At some point or other, we will all experience periods of time in which we feel generally lucky or that the tides have turned against us. Plotting the ten-year cycles can help one know in advance if a storm is brewing (so that we may take precautions), when to expect to have success in a business endeavor, whether a long-lasting and happy marriage or romantic union is likely, if there will be significant health challenges to overcome, and so on. The influence of the Luck Cycles on each BaZi chart is a vitally important aspect of your chart analysis.

Calculate DaYun

Although the ten-year cycles always last ten years, they do not start at birth and change every decade at 10, 20, 30…years of age. The cycles are calculated based on the individual's time of birth. In this section, I will first show you how to calculate the exact moment DaYun will begin and when it will change for any individual. Truth be told, this down-to-the-minute level of accuracy of DaYun is not going to be a pivotal point of contention with respect to a proper analysis of the astrology chart. As such, I will also share with you a perfectly acceptable abbreviated approach to counting up DaYun.

Before we begin, there are four general rules you must keep in mind:

- If the chart is of a male born in a year ruled by a Yang Heavenly Stem, you will move around the Heavenly and Earthly Rings in a clockwise direction: ⟳.
- If the chart is of a female born in a year ruled by a Yin Heavenly Stem, you will move around the Heavenly and Earthly Rings in a clockwise direction: ⟳.
- If the chart is of a male born in a year ruled by a Yin Heavenly Stem, you will move around the Heavenly and Earthly Rings in a counterclockwise direction: ⟲.
- If the chart is of a female born in a year ruled by a Yang Heavenly Stem, you will move around the Heavenly and Earthly Rings in a counterclockwise direction: ⟲.

From the day and time of birth, count the number of days and hours to the appropriate Jie. If you are moving clockwise, count to the next

Jie. If you are moving counterclockwise, count to the previous Jie. Remember to consult the appropriate Jie chart(s), and apply the DaYun conversion chart below to calculate the moment the ten-year DaYun will begin.

DaYun Calculation Formula

Born in Yin Year (HS):

♂↺

♀ ↻

Born in Yang Year (HS):

♂ ↻

♀ ↺

Conversions

3 days = 1 year

1 day = 4 months

1 hour = 5 days

1 minute = 2 hours

Next, add or subtract 1 to/from the Month Pillar (depending on whether you are moving in a clockwise or counterclockwise manner during your calculations). This will be your starting point—the energy influencing the first DaYun. Every ten years, from the year, month, day, and hour you just calculated, will represent the beginning of a new DaYun. You will move through the Heavenly Stem Earthly Branch cycle, either clockwise or counterclockwise, by one position, every ten years, to determine which Stem/Branch combination will exert their influence on the DaYun in question.

Sample Exercise 17

Find DaYun of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20.

You will find a template to help you keep track of DaYun in the Appendix.

Our Friend ♀

22 February 1945 @ 23:20

	甲寅丙	

First, we need to note our friend's (a female) yearly Heavenly Stem—is it Yin or Yang? Her Year Stem is Yi 乙, which has Yin qualities. She is born in a "Yin Year" and we will be counting in a clockwise (↻) direction to the closest Jie.

The closest Jie to 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 is 6 March 1945 @ 06:37, which is 11 days, 7 hours, and 17 minutes from the time of her birth. Apply the conversion chart:

- 11 days / (3 days/year) = 3 years… + 2 days
- (11 divided by 3 is 3, with a remainder of 2. In this case, we treat the remainder as extra days and apply the rule above)
- 2 days × (4 months/day) = 8 months
- 7 hours × (5 days/1 hour) = 35 days
- 17 minutes × (2 hours/1 minute) = 34 hours

Next, apply these conversions to our friend's birthday: 22 February 1945 @ 23:20.

- 1945 + 3 = 1948 → her first DaYun began in 1948. Until DaYun began, she was most strongly influenced by the energies of the original Four Pillar chart.
- February + 8 months = October.
- 35 days = 1 month and 5 days → 22 October + 1 month and 5 days is 27 November. (To make things simpler, I am using an average of 30 days per month here. If you prefer to be very precise, you will need to count days on a calendar.)
- 34 hours + 27 November at 23:20 = 28 November at 23:20 + 10 hours = 29 November at 09:20.
- Starting 29 November 1948 at 09:20, her DaYun will change every ten years.

Let's put it in chart form:

Our Friend ♀
22 February 1945 @ 23:20

Birdeh		
	癸	
甲寅	丙	

Chart notes
* She was born under the influence of a “Yin” Heavenly Stem, Yi 乙, so we will be moving clockwise in this calculation. I like to remind myself of the direction by putting a clockwise symbol in the chart (⟳).
* Starting with the Monthly Pillar, move forward one space in the Heavenly and Earthly Ring diagrams to find the first Stem–Branch pair of the first DaYun:
e.g. 戊 “+ 1” = 己; 寅 “+ 1” = 卯
Continue to move forward one Stem–Branch pair, in a clockwise direction, for each ten-year cycle.

Fill in the DaYun chart:

DaYun ⟳
As per our calculation, DaYun changes each decade on
29 November 1948 @ 09:20

(29 Nov)
1948
戊 己
寅 卯
庚 辛
1958
乙 己
巳 未
酉
2008
2018
2028

Find DaYun of a male born on 17 November 1951 @ 02:15.

Find his BaZi provided below:

Our Friend ♂

17 November 1951 @ 02:15

Birdeh		
辛	寅	
己	亥	癸
戊	子	庚

First, note from the BaZi that he was born in a “Yin” Year (in the Year Pillar, his Heavenly Stem is Xin 辛). This tells us that we will be moving in a counterclockwise (⟲) direction.

DaYun ⟲

We don’t yet know the starting Month, but we already fill in the Stem–Branch pairs, moving one place from the Month Pillar at birth, in a counterclockwise (⟲) manner:

e.g.

辛 “– 1” = Geng 庚; Mao 卯 “– 1” = Yin 寅

丁 戌 辛

酉

戊 寅 壬

乙 未 己

丙 申 己

戊 酉 庚

戊 戌 癸

亥

戊 寅 丙

Next, we find the closest previous Jie to his birth date (remember, we are moving in a counterclockwise direction), which is 8 November at 13:26, or 8 days, 12 hours, and 49 minutes before his time of birth. Let’s do our conversions:

- 8 days / (3 days/year) = 2 years… + 2 days
-

2 days × (4 months/day) = 8 months

- 12 hours × (5 days/hour) = 60 days
- 49 minutes × (2 hours/minute) = 98 hours

Now, apply these conversions to our friend's birthday: 17 November 1951 @ 02:15:

- 1951 + 2 = 1953 → His first DaYun began in 1954. Until DaYun began, he was most strongly influenced by the energies of the original chart.
- November + 8 months = July.
- 60 days = 2 months → 17 July + 2 months is 17 September. Again, I am using an average of 30 days per month—please honor the demands of your constitution and adjust the level of accuracy by counting the days on a calendar as needed.
- 98 hours + 17 September @ 02:15 = 21 September 1954 @ 04:15.
- Starting 21 September 1954 at 04:15, his DaYun will change every ten years.

	DaYun ○			
	Hidden Stem			
	(21 Sep 1954)			
	戊辰			
	己巳			
	庚午			
	辛未			
	壬申			
	癸酉			
	甲戌			
	乙亥			
	丙子			
	丁丑			
	戊寅			
	己卯			
	庚辰			
	辛巳			
	壬午			
	癸未			
	甲申			
	乙酉			
	丙戌			
	丁亥			
	戊子			
	己丑			
	庚寅			
	辛卯			
	壬辰			
	癸巳			
	甲午			
	乙未			
	丙申			
	丁酉			
	戊戌			
	己亥			
	庚子			
	辛丑			
	壬寅			
	癸卯			

As per our calculations, DaYun changes each decade starting on 21 September 1954 @ 04:15

Sample Exercise 19

Using the same two birthdays, I will show you a slightly simpler method (please note the conversions are the same).

22 February 1945 @ 23:20

- 11 days / (3 days/year) = 3 years… + 2 days
- (11 divided by 3 is 3, with a remainder of 2. In this case, we treat the remainder as extra days and apply the rule above)
- 2 days × (4 months/day) = 8 months
- 7 hours × (5 days/1 hour) = 35 days
- 17 minutes × (2 hours/1 minute) = 34 hours
- Simplification: Our friend's DaYun will begin 3 years, 9 months, and 6 days after the day of her birth.

17 November 1951 @ 02:15

- 8 days / (3 days/year) = 2 years… + 2 days
- 2 days × (4 months/day) = 8 months
- 12 hours × (5 days/1 hour) = 60 days
- 49 minutes × (2 hours/1 minute) = 98 hours
- Simplification: Our friend's DaYun will begin 2 years, 10 months, and 4 days after the day of his birth.

Practice Exercise 8

Find DaYun of our four friends below.

1. Janey Yin: 20 January 1966 @ 10:46 ♀
2. Janey Yang: 11 February 1944 @ 20:30 ♀
3. Johnny Yin: 3 September 1973 @ 11:02 ♂
4. Johnny Yang: 7 November 1966 @ 22:11 ♂

DaYun Calculation

From the day and time of birth, count the number of days and

hours to the appropriate Jie. If you are moving clockwise, count to the next Jie. If you are moving counterclockwise, count to the previous Jie. Remember to consult the appropriate Jie chart(s), and apply the DaYun conversion chart below to calculate the moment the ten-year DaYun will begin.

Born in Yin Year (HS):

♂↺

♀ ↻

Born in Yang Year (HS):

♂ ↻

♀ ↺

Conversions

3 days = 1 year

1 day = 4 months

1 hour = 5 days

1 minute = 2 hours

Next, add or subtract 1 to/from the Month Pillar (depending on whether you are moving in a clockwise or counterclockwise manner during your calculations). This will be your starting point —the energy influencing the first DaYun. Every ten years from this point represents the beginning of a new DaYun. Move through the Heavenly Stem/Earthly Branch cycles, either clockwise or counterclockwise, by one position, every ten years, to determine the Stem/Branch combination that will exert its influence on the DaYun in question.

5

SHENSHA 神煞

SPIRITS AND GHOSTS

Silk painting of the Thunder God from the Ming Dynasty (1368–1644 CE)
(www.metmuseum.org)

Ancient Chinese sages understood that the distinct energies of our living environment, especially various stars and planets of heaven, have a considerable impact on our destiny in numerous ways, swaying

our lives in favorable and unfavorable directions. In Chinese astrology practice we use the Stems and Branches of the original chart to ascertain energetic patterns of cosmic influences. Ancient astrology texts name literally hundreds of these specific energies and give them all unique astrological names. All of these energies fall under a category traditionally known as ShenSha 神煞 (Spirits and Ghosts). Conventionally, all of the beneficial influences are governed by Shen 神, and disadvantageous influences are regulated by Sha 煞.

When you approach a chart, please remember that the lion's share of your analysis will be based primarily on the relationships between the SiZhu/BaZi and secondarily on the influence of the TaiYuan, MingGong, and DaYun on the BaZi. The ShenSha elements act more as pleasant little accompanying dishes—although they supplement the overall flavor of the main course, they are not a vital part of the meal (i.e. astrology reading). In this chapter, I will show you how to determine some of the most common ShenSha correlations of the BaZi chart. It is to be expected that not all of the ShenSha elements I discuss will strongly influence each and every chart you study.

FengKong 逢空 (Encountering Emptiness)

Bamboo painting by Song Dynasty artist SuShi 蘇軾 *(1037–1101 BCE)*
In Chinese wisdom traditions, bamboo represents emptiness (http://metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/39917)

Significance of FengKong

FengKong means encountering emptiness or nothingness, which represents the cosmic flowering of emptiness, or advanced state of spiritual detachment, in a person's life. FengKong also signifies a quality of emptiness or lack, especially as it pertains to the chart. For

example, FengKong in your Money Element may suggest a lifelong pattern of financial instability, whereas FengKong in the partner position may suggest a particular distance with the life partner (or even no life partner at all).

Finding FengKong

To find FengKong, you must first learn the six Jia 甲 groups and their corresponding Earthly Branch relationships. The six Jia groups are the six patterns of ten Stems and 12 Branches created by the Sexagenary Cycle. Jia (Yang in energy) is paired six times with six different Yang Branches, and the Jia–Yang Branch couplet serve as the "title" of each group. We can see these six groups easily by looking at the Sexagenary Cycle Chart: The first column, containing numbers 1–10, are in the JiaZi 甲子 group; next, numbers 11–20 make up the JiaXu 甲戌 group, numbers 21–30 create the JiaShen 甲申 group, numbers 31–40 the JiaWu 甲午 group, numbers 41–50 the JiaChen 甲辰 group, and numbers 51–60 form the JiaYin 甲寅 group.

We look for FengKong in the Year and Day Pillars of the basic BaZi chart. First, look at the Year and Day Pillars and determine which Jia 甲 group they each belong in. Next, refer to the FengKong chart below to find the branches associated with each Jia 甲 group. If you find any of these FengKong branches in the BaZi chart, you now know that the related pillar has FengKong, or an element of emptiness. After checking the eight main characters of the BaZi for FengKong, please also look for FengKong branches in the calculated TaiYuan or MingGong.

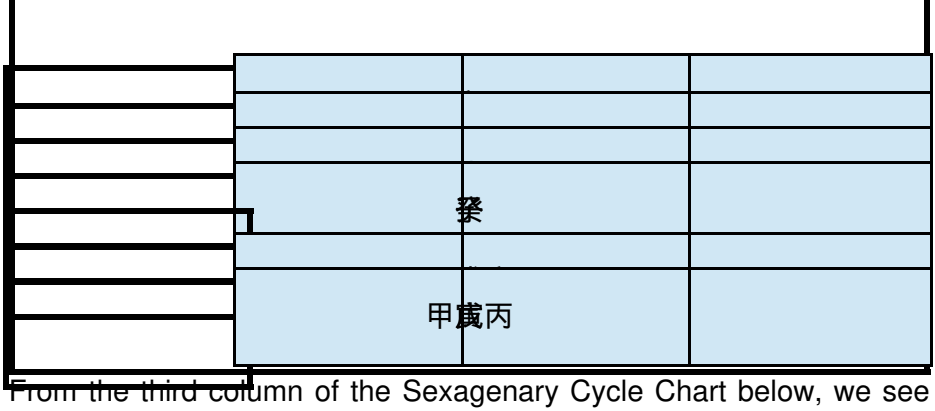
FengKong Chart

If the Year or Day Pillar belongs to this Jia 甲 group…	The FengKong branches are	
Xu 戌	Zi 子	Hai 亥
Shen 申	Xu 戌	You 酉
Wu 午	Shen 申	Wei 未
Chen 辰	Wu 午	Si 巳
Yin 寅	Yin 寅	Mao 卯
Zi 子	Yin 寅	Chou 丑

Sample Exercise 20

Find FengKong of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♀).

	Our Friend ♀ 22 February 1945 @ 23:20	
	Branch	



From the third column of the Sexagenary Cycle Chart below, we see that our friend's Year Pillar, YiYou 乙酉, belongs to the JiaShen 甲申 group. From the FengKong table, we see that Wu 午 and Wei 未 are her FengKong. Next, we look for where her Day Pillar, RenXu 壬戌, appears in the Sexagenary Cycle, and see that it belongs to the JiaYin group 甲寅 (in the sixth column). Zi 子 and Chou 丑 are her FengKong as well. Note if any of these FengKong branches (Wu 午, Wei 未, Zi 子, or Chou 丑) turn up in her BaZi chart (including in her TaiYuan and MingGong).

The Hour Branch of our friend's basic BaZi chart is Zi 子, and carries FengKong energy.

Practice Exercise 9

Find FengKong of our four friends below.

1. Janey Yin: 20 January 1966 @ 10:46 ♀
2. Janey Yang: 11 February 1944 @ 20:30 ♀
3. Johnny Yin: 3 September 1973 @ 11:02 ♂
4. Johnny Yang: 7 November 1966 @ 22:11 ♂

FengKong Calculation

Look at the Year and Day Pillars and find which "Jia group" (see the Sexagenary Cycle Chart) they each belong to. Refer to the FengKong chart below to find the branches associated with each Jia group. Any of these FengKong branches in the BaZi chart are FengKong. Also check TaiYuan or MingGong for FengKong.

If the Year or Day Pillar belongs to this Jia 甲 group…	The FengKong are
Xu Zi 戌子	Hai 亥
Shen Xu 申戌	You 酉
Wu Shen 午申	Wei 未

Chen 辰	Jia Wu 甲午
Yin 寅	Jia Chen 甲辰
Zi 子	Jia Yin 甲寅
	Jia Zi 甲子

FuYin 伏吟 (Hidden Moaning)

Moon Goddess ChangE—traditional Chinese painting

In China, the moon goddess, ChangE 常娥, represents loneliness and Crying Energy

Significance of FuYin

FuYin means “hidden moaning.” Its presence suggests a potential for “Crying Energy” as it relates to where it is found in the chart. The presence of FuYin/Crying Energy is a strong indication of significant life challenges. The Stem/Branch FuYin pair may portent trials in areas symbolically related to the associated Elements and/or the position in the chart.

It is important to note that FuYin is not a guaranteed indication of doom and gloom! As the nature of the calendar is of repeating cycles, each of us will experience FuYin of varying degrees throughout our lives. The strength and influence of this energy is influenced by the totality of the chart itself and also of the self-cultivation practice of the individual.

Finding FuYin

FuYin occurs any time an Heavenly Stem and Earthly Branch pair of the basic Four Pillar chart appear together again elsewhere in the chart. This can occur anywhere—for example, as sets of identical Stem/Branch pairs within the Four Pillars, TaiYuan, MingGong, in a DaYun, during a specific year, on a specific day, etc.

Remember, the most effective way to moderate the effects of FuYin, so that the challenge is more easily manageable, integrated, or even transformed/avoided altogether, is a daily self-cultivation practice.

Sample Exercise 21

Find FuYin of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♀). The most important elements of her chart, as we have already calculated, are where we will want to look for FuYin:

Our Friend ♀
22 February 1945 @ 23:20

Birdeh		
癸		
甲戌丙		

DaYun			

	Hidden Stems		
	(29 Nov) 1948		
	戊寅		
	丙戌		
	1973		
	乙酉		
	庚		
	2008年		
	2018		

Note that her MingGong Stem/Branch pair, WuYin 戊寅, is the same as her Month Pillar, and thus is a FuYin pair. These two WuYin 戊寅 create a general presence of Crying Energy in her life. The associated Elements, Earth and Wood (WuYin 戊寅), suggest that she has the potential for significant health challenges related to her digestion (specifically, as it relates to the stomach from a Chinese medicine perspective) and/or immune system (as it relates to the gallbladder from a Chinese medicine perspective). Also, in DaYun of 2008–2018 we see the same Stem/Branch pair as in her Year Pillar, YiYou 乙酉. The 2008–2018 time period holds FuYin for our friend, and we anticipate this decade will bear the mark of some kind of drawn-out challenge or difficulty, possibly even an intense one, for her to overcome. This may manifest as a personal tragedy or a “narrow escape” from a potentially very serious situation.

Practice Exercise 10

Find FuYin of our four friends below, looking for a time when any of the Four Pillar Stem/Branch pairs are found in the TaiYuan, MingGong, and DaYun.

1. Janey Yin: 20 January 1966 @ 10:46 ♀
2. Janey Yang: 11 February 1944 @ 20:30 ♀
3. Johnny Yin: 3 September 1973 @ 11:02 ♂
4. Johnny Yang: 7 November 1966 @ 22:11 ♂

FuYin Calculation

FuYin occurs any time an Earthly Branch and Heavenly Stem pair of the basic Four Pillar chart appear together again elsewhere in

the chart.

TianYi 天乙 (Good Fortune)

Traditional Daoist TianYi God painting
(www.baike.com/wiki/太乙天尊)

Significance of TianYi (Good Fortune)

TianYi is also called TianYiGuiRen 天乙貴人, which literally means "Good Fortune Noble Person." It is the most auspicious indicator one

can have in the astrology chart. Presence of TianYi (Good Fortune/ GF) indicates a good life in nearly every aspect and also acts as a signifier that the person will have relative ease in shifting, transforming, or moving through the challenging situations that life inevitably brings. TianYi (GF) can also represent a time or a person that is most likely to provide external support when needed. The ability of TianYi (GF) to assert its influence on the chart is dramatically reduced if it is also in a FengKong position.

Finding TianYi (Good Fortune)

Each Heavenly Stem pair has a special corresponding set of Earthly Branches that act as TianYi (GF). We look only to the Year and Day Stems to find TianYi (GF). TianYi (GF) can appear anywhere in the chart.

Use the chart below to find the TianYi (GF) correlations.

TianYi (Good Fortune) Chart

If the Year Stem is…	The Day Stem is…
Chou 丑 and Wei 未	Jia 甲 and Wu 戊
Zi 子 and Shen 申	Yi 乙 and Ji 己
Hai 亥 and Mao 卯	Bing 丙 and Ding 丁
Yin 寅 and Xu 戌	Geng 庚 and Xin 辛
Si 巳 and Chou 丑	Ren 壬 and Mao 卯

Sample Exercise 22

Find TianYi (GF) of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♀).

Our Friend ♀
22 February 1945 @ 23:20

Birdeh		
	癸	
	甲 戌 丙	

The Heavenly Stems in the Year and Day Pillars for our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♀) are Yi 乙 and Ren 壬.

Her TianYi (GF) are Zi 子, Shen 申, Mao 卯, and Si 巳. We find them

in her Hour Branch, TaiYuan Branch, and in several DaYun.

Practice Exercise 11

Find TianYi (GF) of our four friends below.

1. Janey Yin: 20 January 1966 @ 10:46 ♀
2. Janey Yang: 11 February 1944 @ 20:30 ♀
3. Johnny Yin: 3 September 1973 @ 11:02 ♂
4. Johnny Yang: 7 November 1966 @ 22:11 ♂

TianYi (Good Fortune) Calculation

Find TianYi (GF) through the following correlations with the Year and Day Stems.

If the Year Stem is…	The TianYi (GF) Stem is…
Jia 甲 and Wu 戊	Wei 未
Yi 乙 and Ji 己	Shen 申
Bing 丙 and Geng 庚	Hai 亥
Ding 丁 and Xin 辛	Yin 寅
Mao 卯 and Ren 壬	Si 巳
Zi 子 and Gui 癸	Chou 丑

TaoHua 桃花 (Peach Blossom)

Captivating peach blossom
Photography by Master Zhongxian Wu

Significance of TaoHua

TaoHua/Peach Blossom reveals patterns of love and romance. It can provide insight into the basic romantic relationship strategies of the individual and can also strongly influence an annual cycle and DaYun. The important distinction to note is whether TaoHua is of the "inner" or "outer" variety.

Inner versus Outer TaoHua

The Inner TaoHua represents qualities of both inner beauty and true talent. Having an Inner TaoHua in the chart suggests that the person is more likely to be faithful in relationships and to be involved in stable love relationships throughout his or her life. A TaoHua is considered "inner" when it is located in the Year or Month Branch position.

The Outer TaoHua represents qualities of outer beauty and is typically correlated with a strong social magnetism. Having an Outer TaoHua suggests that the person is more likely to have many lovers throughout his/her life, may have serious issues with infidelity, and is often involved in a series of unstable love relationships. The Outer TaoHua is found in the Day or Hour Branch position.

Finding TaoHua

TaoHua are determined via specific combinations of Earthly Branches that have particular powers of energy transformation when grouped together. For now, I will simply tell you the Branches in each of these special subgroups and their correlating TaoHua. We use the Year and Day Branches to find the TaoHua and make a note where the TaoHua appears throughout the chart.

TaoHua Chart

	If the Year Branch is…	**If the Day Branch is…**	
	Shen 申, Zi 子, or Chen 辰	Yin 寅, Wu 午, or Xu 戌	
	Hai 亥, Mao 卯, or Wei 未	Si 巳, You 酉, or Chou 丑	
	Yin 寅, Wu 午, or Xu 戌	Shen 申, Zi 子, or Chen 辰	
	Si 巳, You 酉, or Chou 丑	Hai 亥, Mao 卯, or Wei 未	

Sample Exercise 23

Find TaoHua of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♀).

	Our Friend ♀	
	22 February 1945 @ 23:20	
	Birth	
	癸	
	甲戌丙	

The Earthly Branches in the Year and Day Pillars for our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♀) are You 酉 and Xu 戌. Therefore, her TaoHua are Wu 午 and Mao 卯. We cannot find them in her original chart but find them in several DaYun.

Practice Exercise 12

Find TaoHua of our four friends below.

1. Janey Yin: 20 January 1966 @ 10:46 ♀
2. Janey Yang: 11 February 1944 @ 20:30 ♀
3.

Johnny Yin: 3 September 1973 @ 11:02 ♂
4.
Johnny Yang: 7 November 1966 @ 22:11 ♂

TaoHua Calculation

Use the Year and Day Branches to find the correlating TaoHua in the chart below.

If the Year or Day Branch is…	Then the TaoHua Branch is…
Shen 申, Zi 子, or Chen 辰	You 酉
Hai 亥, Mao 卯, or Wei 未	Zi 子
Yin 寅, Wu 午, or Xu 戌	Mao 卯
Si 巳, You 酉, or Chou 丑	Wu 午

An Inner Peach Blossom is one located in the Year or Month Branch position.
An Outer Peach Blossom is found in the Day or Hour Branch position.

YiMa 驛馬 (Wandering Horse)

Bronze horse chariot from the Qin Dynasty (221–207 BCE)

Significance of YiMa

The presence of YiMa/Wandering Horse in the chart indicates that some degree of instability will influence the chart. This could manifest as a period of heavy traveling, a major relocation, or other general upheaval.

Finding YiMa

To find YiMa, look at the Year and Day Branches. Find the YiMa Branch correlations in the chart below.

YiMa Chart

If the Year Branch is…	Then YiMa Branch is…
Shen 申, Zi 子, or Chen 辰	Yin 寅
Hai 亥, Mao 卯, or Wei 未	Si 巳
Yin 寅, Wu 午, or Xu 戌	Shen 申
Si 巳, You 酉, or Chou 丑	Hai 亥

Sample Exercise 24

Find YiMa of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♀).

Our Friend ♀

22 February 1945 @ 23:20

	癸	
甲	戊 丙	

Her YiMa are Hai 亥 and Shen 申. We cannot find them in her original chart but find them in her DaYun.

Practice Exercise 13

Find YiMa of our four friends below.

1. Janey Yin: 20 January 1966 @ 10:46 ♀
2. Janey Yang: 11 February 1944 @ 20:30 ♀
3. Johnny Yin: 3 September 1973 @ 11:02 ♂
4. Johnny Yang: 7 November 1966 @ 22:11 ♂

YiMa Calculation

Look at the Year and Day Branches and find YiMa correlations in the chart below.

If the Year Branch is…	Then YiMa Branch is…

Shen 申, Zi 子 or Chen 辰
Hai 亥, Mao 卯, or Wei 未
Yin 寅, Wu 午 or Xu 戌
Si 巳, You 酉, or Chou 丑

TianDe 天德 (Heavenly Virtue)

A traditional Chinese painting of the God of Heavenly Virtue, TianDe 天德

Significance of TianDe

TianDe/Heavenly Virtue helps release or rebuff bad luck energy, increasing the likelihood of the person experiencing a generally peaceful and smoothly flowing life.

It also indicates that the person has a generous heart and an

authentic willingness to help others.

While TianDe may be found anywhere in the chart, it has the greatest influence if found in the "main chart," TaiYuan, or MingGong.

Finding TianDe

TianDe is found through the Month Branch from the following Earthly Branch correlations:

TianDe Chart

If the Month is...	TianDe is...
Zi 子	Xin 辛
Chou 丑	Geng 庚
Yin 寅	Ding 丁
Mao 卯	Bing 丙
Chen 辰	Yi 乙
Si 巳	Jia 甲
Wu 午	Gui 癸
Wei 未	Ren 壬
Shen 申	Xin 辛
You 酉	Geng 庚
Xu 戌	Ding 丁
Hai 亥	Bing 丙

Sample Exercise 25

Find TianDe of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♀).

Our Friend ♀

22 February 1945 @ 23:20

	Birth	
	癸	
	甲戌丙	

Her TianDe is Ding 丁. We cannot find it in her original chart but find it in her DaYun.

Practice Exercise 14

Find TianDe of our four friends below.

1. Janey Yin: 20 January 1966 @ 10:46 ♀
2. Janey Yang: 11 February 1944 @ 20:30 ♀
3. Johnny Yin: 3 September 1973 @ 11:02 ♂
4. Johnny Yang: 7 November 1966 @ 22:11 ♂

TianDe Calculation

Look at the Month Branch and find TianDe from the following table.

If the Month Branch is...	Then TianDe is...
Zi 子	Ding 丁
Chou 丑	Geng 庚
Yin 寅	Xin 辛
Mao 卯	Ren 壬
Chen 辰	Gui 癸
Si 巳	Jia 甲
Wu 午	Yi 乙
Wei 未	Bing 丙
Shen 申	Ding 丁
You 酉	Wu 戊
Xu 戌	Ji 己
Hai 亥	Geng 庚

TianYi 天醫 (Medicine)

Wooden carving of the Ming Dynasty era Medicine King, SunXiMiao 孫思邈 (541–682 CE)

Significance of TianYi (Medicine)

The presence of TianYi (M) in the chart indicates that the person is likely to be blessed with good health. It also suggests that the individual has an inherent talent to practice any kind of medicine or traditional healing art. If TianYi (M) is weak, this could mean that the person could have health challenges throughout his or her life.

Finding TianYi (Medicine)

To find TianYi (M), look at the Month Branch and move one position backwards (counterclockwise):

TianYi (Medicine) Chart

If the Month Branch is…	Then TianYi (M) is…
Hai 亥	Tzu 子
Tzu 子	Chou 丑
Chou 丑	Yin 寅
Yin 寅	Mao 卯
Mao 卯	Chen 辰
Chen 辰	Hai 亥

Wu 午	Wu 午
Wei 未	Wei 未
Shen 申	Shen 申
Shen 申	Shen 申
You 酉	You 酉
Xu 戌	Xu 戌

Sample Exercise 26

Find TianYi (M) of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♀).

Our Friend ♀

22 February 1945 @ 23:20

	癸	
甲	戊 丙	

Her TianYi (M) is Chou 丑. We cannot find it in her original chart but find it in her DaYun.

Practice Exercise 15

Find TianYi (M) of our four friends below.

1. Janey Yin: 20 January 1966 @ 10:46 ♀
2. Janey Yang: 11 February 1944 @ 20:30 ♀
3. Johnny Yin: 3 September 1973 @ 11:02 ♂
4. Johnny Yang: 7 November 1966 @ 22:11 ♂

TianYi (Medicine) Calculation

Look at the Month Branch and move one position backwards (counterclockwise), or check the table below.

If the Month Branch is...	**Then TianYi (M) is...**
Hai 亥	Zi 子
Chou 丑	Yin 寅

Chou	丑
Mao	卯
Chen	辰
Sen	巳
Wu	午
Wei	未
Wen	申
Shen	酉
You	酉
Hai	亥

WenChang 文昌 (Knowledge)

Bronze sculpture of the Qing Dynasty's (1644–1911 CE) God of Literature, Knowledge, and Advanced Education, WenChang 文昌

Significance of WenChang

WenChang is an indication of strong creative energy, manifested, for example, in a high degree of artistry, remarkable elegance, or a long life of successful scholarship.

Finding WenChang

WenChang is made up of specific Stem/Branch combinations. Look to the Year and Day Stems to find the appropriate Branch correlation.

WenChang Chart

If the Year Stem is…	The WenChang Stem is…
Jia	甲
Wu	午
Bing	寅
Ding	酉
Wu	申
Ji	酉
Geng	亥
Xin	子
Ren	寅
Gui	卯

Sample Exercise 27

Find WenChang of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♂).

Our Friend ♀
22 February 1945 @ 23:20

Birth		
	癸	
甲	寅	丙

Our friend's WenChang are Wu 午 and Yin 寅. We find them in the Month Branch, MingGong Branch, and DaYun.

Practice Exercise 16

Find WenChang of our four friends below.

1. Janey Yin: 20 January 1966 @ 10:46 ♀
2. Janey Yang: 11 February 1944 @ 20:30 ♀
3. Johnny Yin: 3 September 1973 @ 11:02 ♂
4. Johnny Yang: 7 November 1966 @ 22:11 ♂

WenChang Calculation

Look at the Year and Day Stem to find the appropriate WenChang Branch correlation from the table below.

If the WenChang Stem is…	The WenChang Branch is…
Jia 甲	Si 巳
Yi 乙	Wu 午
Bing 丙	Shen 申
Ding 丁	You 酉
Wu 戊	Shen 申
Ji 己	You 酉
Geng 庚	Hai 亥
Xin 辛	Zi 子
Ren 壬	Yin 寅
Gui 癸	Mao 卯

Taiji 太極 (Mysticism)

Taiji brush painting by Master Zhongxian Wu

Significance of Taiji

Taiji represents a strong connection to intuition and spirituality as well as the quality of being able to resonate with and comprehend mystical cultures from all around the world. It is also a generally auspicious energy influencing our life.

Finding Taiji

Each Heavenly Stem pair has a special corresponding set of Earthly Branches, which act as Taiji energy. When we are looking to determine Taiji in a chart, we look only to the Year and Day Stems. The corresponding Branch, no matter where or how often it appears in the chart (in the basic chart, the conception energy, destiny,

DaYun, etc.), is Taiji. We say that a person is “Sitting on a Taiji Star” when Taiji is found on the day position; this indicates that Taiji energy is very strong.

Taiji Chart

If the Year Stem is…	Then Taiji is
Jia 甲 and Wu 戊	Zi 子
Bing 丙 and Ding 丁	Wu 午
Geng 庚 and Xin 辛	Yin 寅
Ren 壬 and Gui 癸	Shen 申
Chen 辰, Xu 戌, Chou 丑, and Wei 未	Si 巳

Sample Exercise 28

Find Taiji of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♀).

Our Friend ♀

22 February 1945 @ 23:20

Hour	Day	Month
	癸	
甲	戊	丙

The Year and Day Stems for our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♀) are Yi 乙 and Ren 壬. Therefore, her Taiji are Zi 子, Wu 午, Shen 申, and Si 巳. We find them in her Hour Branch, TaiYuan Branch, and several DaYun.

Practice Exercise 17

Find Taiji of our four friends below.

1. Janey Yin: 20 January 1966 @ 10:46 ♀
2. Janey Yang: 11 February 1944 @ 20:30 ♀
3. Johnny Yin: 3 September 1973 @ 11:02 ♂
4.

Johnny Yang: 7 November 1966 @ 22:11 ♂

Taiji Calculation

Look at the Year and Day Stems and find the corresponding Taiji Branch from the table below.

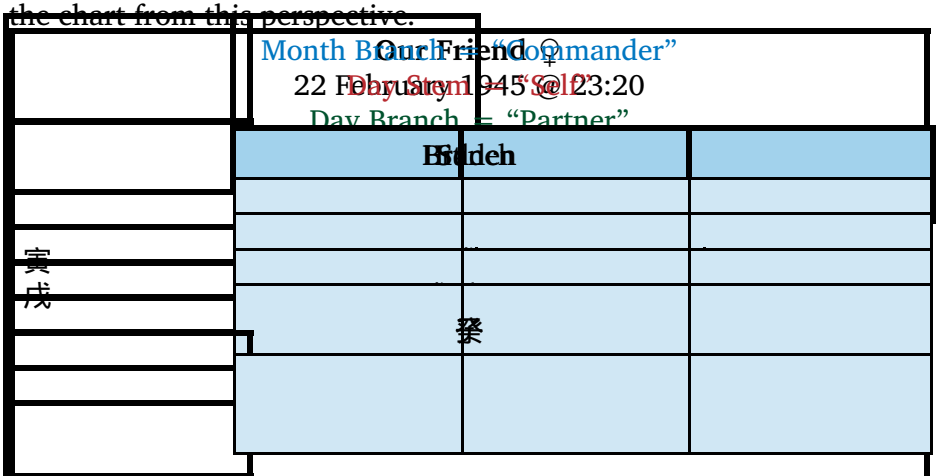
If the Year Stem is…	Then Taiji is…
Jia 甲 and Wu 戊	Zi 子
Yi 乙 and Ji 己	Chou 丑
Bing 丙 and Geng 庚	Yin 寅
Ding 丁 and Xin 辛	Mao 卯
Wu 戊 and Ren 壬	Chen 辰
Ji 己 and Gui 癸	Si 巳
Geng 庚 and Jia 甲	Wu 午
Xin 辛 and Yi 乙	Wei 未
Ren 壬 and Bing 丙	Shen 申
Gui 癸 and Ding 丁	You 酉
Jia 甲 and Wu 戊	Xu 戌
Yi 乙 and Ji 己	Hai 亥

INTRODUCTION TO BAZI ANALYSIS

Paper rubbing of the Magic Tree from a Han Dynasty era stone carving
The primary symbolic imagery of the BaZi is the Magic Tree—the tree of life that connects heaven and earth

In this chapter I will briefly introduce the concept of symbolism and the primary Five Element relationships used to analyze each BaZi chart. Our level of knowledge of the multidimensional symbolism of each of the GanZhi characters will determine the sophistication of our BaZi analysis. Each character in the chart represents some aspect of the client, in time and space. With respect to analysis, the location of the characters—their proximity to and relationships with one another—is of vital significance. Indeed, to the trained eye, BaZi also depicts a multigenerational map of the client's family as well as a physiological map of his or her body. As in-depth study of the complexities of chart analysis are beyond the scope of this book, I will focus on summarizing the basic BaZi relationships, with the aim of helping you get started on the astrologer's path.

Let's start by breaking down the basic structure of the BaZi chart. I have chosen to arrange my charts vertically. This is simply a preference based on the fact that it is easier for my mind to conceptualize the top-down anatomical and chronological elements of the chart from this perspective.



丙戌庚		
甲寅丙		

The Central Element—The Day Stem

The central element of any BaZi chart is the Day Stem, which is considered to represent the “Self” in each chart. It is the balance of the Day Stem (its strength or weakness), as determined by its relationships with the other elements in the chart, that determines the relative balance of the chart in its entirety.

We can think of the Day Stem as the main course of the BaZi, whereas the “extras” we calculated (e.g. TaiYuan, MingGong, DaYun, FengKong, Crying Energy, and various stars) act more as accompanying dishes, condiments, and garnishes. A jaw-dropping main course can stand on its own and receive accolades. Although a mediocre or barely edible main course may be somewhat masked by sumptuous side dishes and spritely seasoned condiments, none of the added extras will be able to fully compensate for a subpar main dish. This analogy is not a perfect one—as I mentioned before, the chart does not represent the finite destiny of the individual, but rather suggests energetic susceptibilities that can be either strengthened or weakened by our environment, our lifestyle choices, our relationships, our occupation, and our creative expression, etc. In the hands of the right (or wrong) chef, either gourmet ingredients or “dumpster diving” can come together and become a stellar (or mediocre) meal.

In Chinese medicine, the body with its organ and meridian systems is often described in terms of its own personal kingdom. We can extend this line of thought to understanding the Day Stem as well. Consider your Day Stem to be the King (or Queen) of your realm. The effectiveness of keeping rule over a harmonious nation greatly depends on: (1) the qualities of the leader (meaning the King, Queen, “Self,” or Day Stem); (2) how the leader’s will is successfully communicated and executed (which is traditionally the role of the Prime Minister, or “Commander,” of the chart); and (3) how focused, grounded, and supported the leader is in daily life, which is largely influenced by his or her partner (the King or Queen, depending on which gender monarch is sitting on the throne of your kingdom, or the “Partner” position of the chart). Before we can determine the strength of the Day Stem, we must clearly define the most essential elemental relationships used in BaZi analysis.

Key Elemental Relationships to Keep in Mind

There are two primary means of understanding the influences between and among the Five Elements: the Birth Principle and the Control Principle. These relationships are the starting point for assessing the balance of the Day Stem.

The Birth Principle

The Birth Principle describes specific elemental pairs in what is traditionally known as a "parent–child" relationship, in which the child is generally nourished by and drains energy from the parent. Although the word "nourish" can have positive connotations to many, Chinese traditions revolve around the concepts of balance and continuum. Encouraging, promoting, nurturing, assisting, strengthening, and holding can all be seen as positive outcomes of a healthy nourishing relationship. On the other hand, an imbalanced nourishing relation-ship can be smothering, extinguishing, overwhelming, stifling, or repressing; it can be seen as having a choking effect.

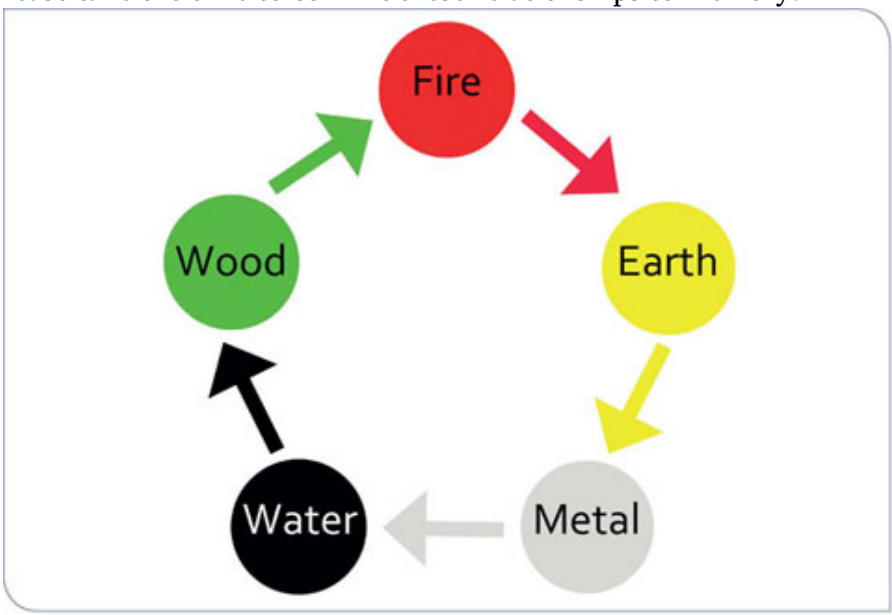
The Control Principle

The Control Principle explains the relationship between certain elemental pairs in terms of "grandparent–grandchild" dynamics, in which the grandparent acts as disciplinarian, exerting energy to check and refine the grandchild's behavior. Again, the key here is balance. Control, when asserted to lead, govern, manage, supervise, restrict, constrain, or regulate, can be a refining, perfecting, or polishing influence, bringing out the gift of the individual. On the other hand, when control is wielded to dominate, suppress, repress, overwhelm, or intimidate, it can be destructive.

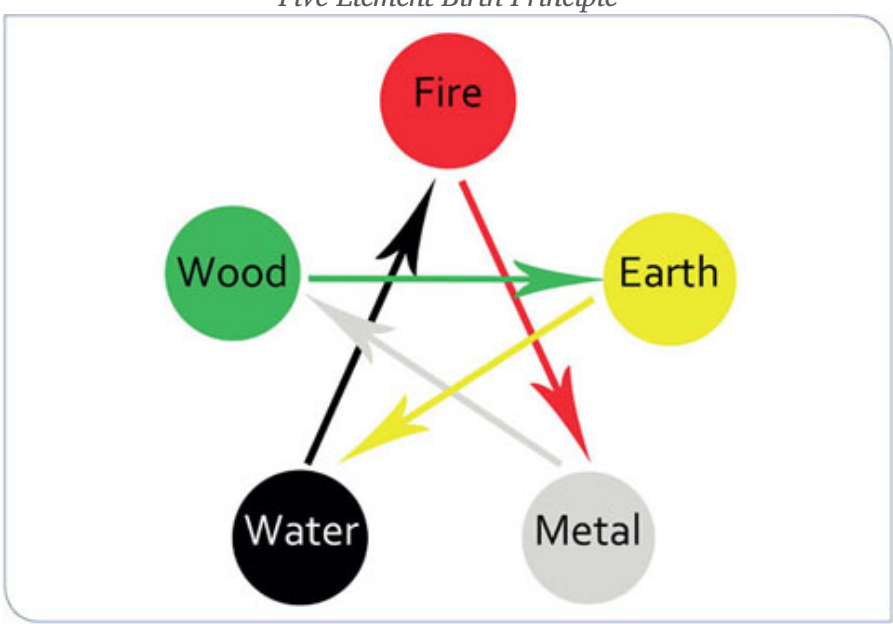
The Birth and Control Principles in Diagram

These relationships are conventionally illustrated with the Elements arranged in a ring. In the Birth Principle diagram, arrows are drawn from one element to the other in a clockwise pattern (see the next page), allowing one to easily see a flow of energy in a circular system. The Birth Principle states the relationships as follows: Water nourishes Wood, Wood feeds Fire, Fire produces Earth, Earth bears Metal, and Metal carries Water. The conventional depiction of the Control Principle arranges the Elements in the same positioning, with the arrows moving across the circle between specific pairs to form what resembles a star pattern in the center (see the next page). Put into words, the Control Principle tells us that Water extinguishes Fire, Fire refines Metal, Metal shapes Wood, Wood penetrates Earth, and

Earth channels Water. The information contained within these diagrams is indispensable in all aspects of your GanZhi BaZi studies—please take the time to commit these relationships to memory!



Five Element Birth Principle



Five Element Control Principle

Assess the Balance of the Day Stem

Now that we have a basic grasp of the elemental relationships required to analyze the chart, we need to determine the balance of the Day Stem. It is important to note that by "balance" of the Day Stem, I am referring to the state of balance of the Day Stem in relation to the entirety of the chart. In Daoism, BaZi, Chinese medicine, and traditional cultivation practices alike, the name of the game is flow. We are essentially training ourselves to see how the Qi flows through the chart, with a central focus on the Day Stem. Correctly assessing how well balanced the Day Stem is by its relationships to the other elements in the chart is a skill that comes with patience, practice, and dedication.

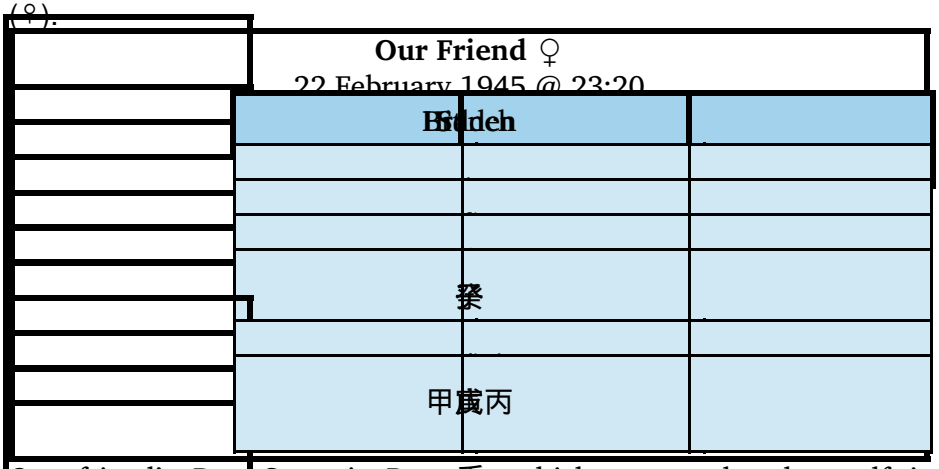
As a starting point, we will look to the triad of "Self" (Day Stem), "Commander" (Month Branch), and "Partner" (Day Branch) as the quickest way to determine the balance of the Day Stem. Next, we look to the Month and Hour Stem and consider their potential impact on our first point of analysis. Initially, we evaluate these relationships vis-à-vis the Five Element Birth and Control Principles alone. As your practice matures, you will learn to incorporate the Hidden Stems and all of the alchemical transformation relationships of the chart[1] into your evaluation.

Identify the King (or Queen)/Day Stem

The Day Stem is simply that—the Heavenly Stem of the Day Pillar.

Sample Exercise 29

Find the Day Stem of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♀).



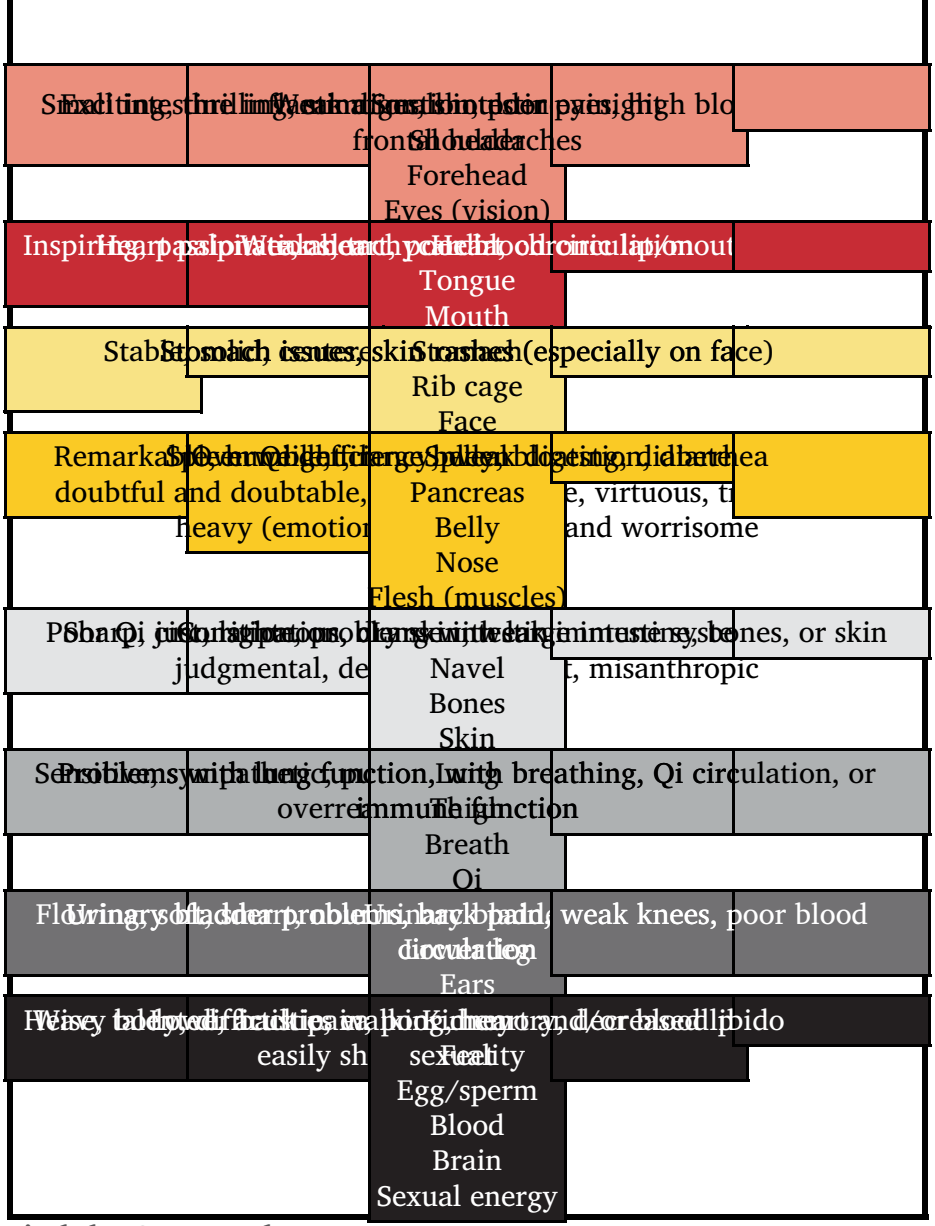
Our friend's Day Stem is Ren 壬, which means that her self is represented by Yang Water.

An understanding of this single character, in this specific position, can provide you with a lot of information. This character represents the character, temperament, and health susceptibilities of the person whose chart you are analyzing. In our book, *Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches*,[2] my husband and I devoted an entire chapter to each of the GanZhi characters and their symbolic meanings. I recommend that you refer to that treasure trove of information for a more complete study of the BaZi. In the meantime, I have compiled some of the information we presented there into two simplified tables, listing personality qualities and health predictions of the Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches. I hope that these will be of great use to you as a starting point for your BaZi analysis, especially when evaluating the Day Stem and Month Branch of each BaZi chart.

From this succinct table, we can start to paint our picture of our friend as a female whom others describe using adjectives such as soft, smart, nourishing, easy-going, fearful, or easily overwhelmed. We may also infer that whenever her health is challenged, supporting the function of her genitourinary system will be key in helping her return to optimal health. She could have symptoms related to having back pain, weak knees, a poor blood circulation system, fear, or overwhelm.

Heavenly Stems—Personality Qualities, Associated Body Part(s), Health Pattern Predictions

		Personality Qualities, Associated Body Part(s), Health Pattern Predictions		
Calm, [illegible]	[illegible]	Head Scapula Thyroid Nervous system Ankle Finger/toenails	[illegible]	[illegible]
Flexible, [illegible]	[illegible]	Neck Immune system Tendons Ligaments Wrist Finger	[illegible]	[illegible]



Find the Commander

The Month Branch is the commander of your chart.

As the name implies, the commander of the chart by and large has a strong and direct influence on the functioning of the Day Stem. One only needs to have a very basic knowledge of the history of China's most famous dynasties to see how this dynamic has transpired. Historically, if the Emperor (or Empress) was strong, determined, noble, and wise, an intelligent and virtuous Prime Minister was key to

asserting the will of the monarch on the people. Perhaps the most famously outstanding Prime Minister in Chinese history was Bao Zheng 包拯 (also known as Bao Gong 包公), who is still a household name in China as an idolized government official synonymous with filial piety, justice, fearlessness, righteousness, and loyalty. This is further romanticized because he served as Prime Minister during the Song Dynasty, a time when China was the most populous, most skilled, and wealthiest country on earth, and when social life was spirited and lively (engineering, literature, mathematics, philosophy, science, and technology made great strides during this time period). If, however, the Emperor (or Empress) is weak and malleable, a less than scrupulous Prime Minister may steer the land under the guise of an incompetent monarch. History buffs may recall stories of the notorious and dastardly Prime Minister Qin Hui 秦檜, the slain folk hero Yue Fei 岳飛, and the toppling of the Song Dynasty to illustrate effectively how a Prime Minister can play a central role in the destruction of an entire kingdom. King is King (as Queen is Queen), yet never underestimate the power of the commander!

Sample Exercise 30

Find the "Commander" of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♀) and identify its relationship to the Day Stem.

Our Friend ♀
22 February 1945 @ 23:20

	癸	
甲	戊 丙	

Earthly Branches—Personality Qualities, Spatial Relations, Organ and Meridian Correlations

Wise, flexible, optimistic, honest	Kidney, Bladder, Gallbladder	
Stable, kind, tough, stubborn	Spleen, Stomach	

Careful, responsible,			
Clever, intelligent, agile,			
Powerful, mystical, he			
Cautious, intuitive,			
Enduring, powerful, liv			
Enduring, tender,			
Spiritual, elastic,			
Stylish, influential, fa			
Intuitive, artistic, cau			
Gentle, knowledgeable,			

Our friend's commander is Yin 寅, Yang Wood. Her Day Stem is Ren 壬, Yang Water. The Five Element Birth Principle tells us that Water nourishes Wood. Our friend's Day Stem is commanded by an element that inherently draws energy away from her self. We make note that we are perhaps seeing an image of an imbalanced Day Stem. The "Prime Minister," acting as the arm and the voice of the Queen, may be draining her strength and overall ability to rule her nation.

Let us continue our investigation of our friend's Day Stem by taking a look at the relationship between her Day Stem ("Self") and Day Branch ("Partner").

Find the Partner

Again, the Day Branch is the partner of the Day Stem, or self. While I'm sure I could find an obscure historical example of the spouse of a ruling King or Queen directly influencing the law of the land, I am equally certain that I don't have to. You need only to take a look back on your own relationship history (and/or that of your close friends and family) to have a sense of how being partnered with someone who is nurturing or smothering, supportive or discouraging, or containing or controlling can play out. Generally, we look to assess

whether the partner is depleting or nourishing with respect to the Day Stem.

Sample Exercise 31

Find the “Partner” of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♀) and identify its relationship to the Day Stem.

Our Friend ♀

22 February 1945 @ 23:20

	Hidden	
	癸	
	甲戌丙	

Our friend’s Day Branch is Xu 戌, which is Yang Earth. In the Five Element Control Principle, we see that Earth controls Water.

In our current example, we notice that the relationship between the self and the partner is likely to be a depleting one. An Earth partner exerts control over a Water Queen, whose function, we suspect, is already being taxed by her Wood Prime Minister.

Sample Exercise 32

Based on our analysis above, find evidence to support our assessment of overall balance of the Day Stem of our friend born on 22 February 1945 @ 23:20 (♀).

Our Friend ♀

22 February 1945 @ 23:20

	Hidden	
	癸	
	甲戌丙	

From our basic analysis, we suspect that our friend’s Day Stem is not

well balanced by the other elements in her chart. Energy from Ren 壬 (Yang Water) is unmistakably depleted through its "giving" of energy to the commander Yin 寅 (Yang Wood) and the "dampening" of energy by the partner Xu 戌 (Yang Earth).

The Month and Hour Stems embrace both sides of the Day Stem. These two Stems have some direct influence on the Day Stem as well. If the elements of the Month or Hour Stem offer support to the Day Stem, then the overall power and function of the King/Queen will improve (and vice versa). The forces of the Year Pillar and Hour Branch have a less direct impact on the Day Stem.

Advanced BaZi practitioners will utilize the various hidden alchemical relationships between "Self," "Commander," and "Partner," the Month Stem, Year and Hour Pillars, TaiYuan, MingGong, and DaYun to further refine their assessment of the Day Stem's overall balance and with what susceptibility that balance changes over time.

Other Five Element Relationships: Auspicious Elements

We also use the Birth and Control Principles to help us identify *auspicious elements*. In this book, we will only focus on the auspicious elements that relate to money and talent, both of which are identified in relation to the Day Stem.

The Money Element

As a rule, the element that the Day Stem "governs" (the element across from it in the Five Element Control Principle diagram) represents the "Money Element" for that person.

Side note: Although I firmly believe that the ability to recall the Birth and Control Principles from memory will indelibly help you identify each auspicious element, for those of you who like tabulated information, I will also provide summary charts for the auspicious elements as we go through them.

Money Element Chart

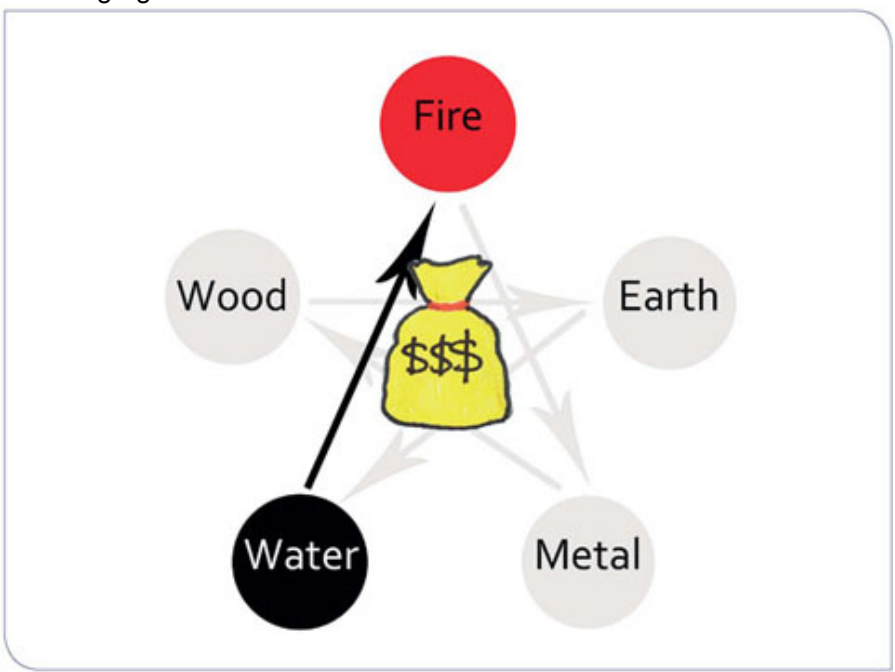
Day Stem	Money Element
Water	Fire
Wood	Earth
Fire	Metal
Earth	Water
Metal	Wood

Sample Exercise 33

Find the Money Element of our friend, whose Day Stem is Ren 壬.

Using the Control Principle diagram, we see that because Water

extinguishes/controls Fire, Fire is her "Money Element." The Fire Element does not appear as one of the main characters of her basic chart, which indicates she potentially has challenges securing jobs that provide a good salary. We can advise our friend that she is more likely to be financially successful if her choice of occupation and/or overall Fengshui of her work environment can be characterized symbolically as belonging to the Fire Element.



Money Element

To complicate matters just a bit, the ability of any of us to access/ make use of our money is dependent on the balance of the Day Stem itself. For example, if I have a giant safe full of gold coins in my basement (i.e. my Money Element is well-represented), but, try as I might, I am unable to open the safe (i.e. my Day Stem is not able to "take" the money), then the gold coins are essentially of no use to me.

The Talent Element

The Talent Element is the element that shows off the inherent gifts of the Day Stem. In the Birth Principle diagram, it is the element that the Day Stem "gives birth to."

Talent Element Chart

Day Stem	Talent Element
Wood	Fire

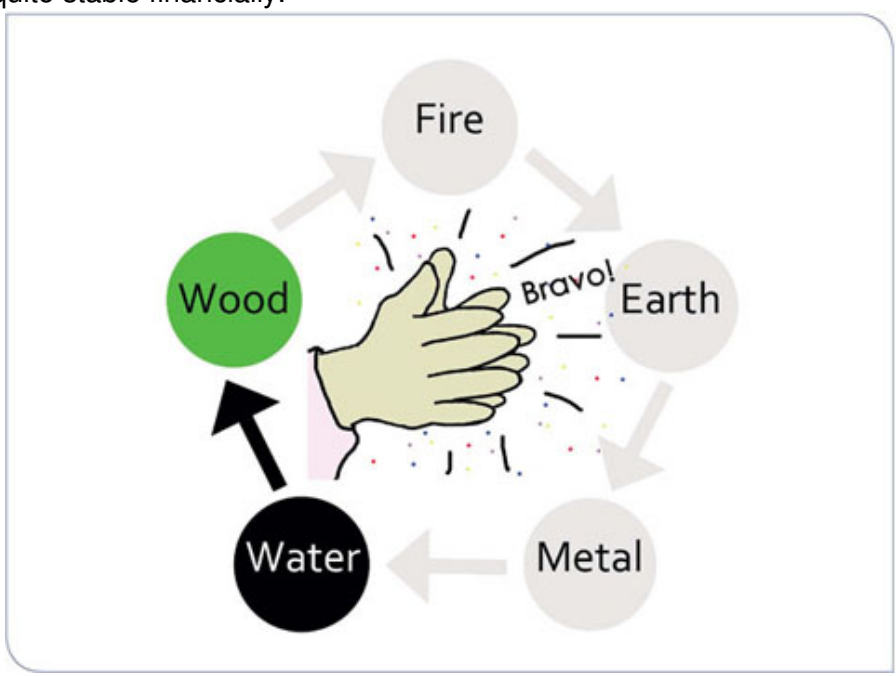
Wood	Fire
Fire	Earth
Earth	Metal
Metal	Water
Water	Wood

Sample Exercise 34

Find the Talent Element of our friend, whose Day Stem is Ren 壬.

Using the Birth Principle diagram, we see that Water gives birth to/ nourishes Wood, making Wood her "Talent Element." In this BaZi chart, Wood appears at Year Stem and Month Branch (the commander), which suggests that she is quite talented. Also, when she gives a public speech, is marketing her business or other talents in some way, or just generally wants to have a "wow" effect on someone, it would benefit her to utilize the Wood Element.

If the Talent Element is strongly represented in the chart, then the "source" of money is also well represented. From first glance, Wood seems weakly represented in this chart. However, Wood as commander holds a significant position of influence in the chart. Although it is unlikely that she will be exceedingly wealthy, the commander suggests to us that she does have the potential to be quite stable financially.



Talent Element

Regarding Money and Talent

It is also important to realize that no one will be able to fully take advantage of the Money Element in his or her chart if the source of the money isn't there—the flow of any spring is dependent on the aquifer from which it is fed! The Talent Element is also considered to be the source of wealth. In other words, you will have an increased likelihood of making money if you have a special talent.

Day Stem Sample Exercises

Day Stem Sample Exercise 1

Identify the Day Stem, the commander, and the partner of our friend Janey Yin: 20 January 1966 @ 10:46 ♀. Use this information to assess the balance of her Day Stem. You will find my commentary below.

Janey Yin ♀

20 January 1966 @ 10:46

丙戌庚		

Commentary

Janey Yin's Day Stem

In the case of our friend Janey Yin, her self is represented by Ji 己, or Yin Earth.

Janey Yin's Commander

Janey Yin's "Commander" is Chou 丑, Yin Earth. Her Day Stem is Ji 己, also Yin Earth. Note that we do not see a specific connection between Earth and Earth (any element and itself) in either the Birth Principle or the Control Principle. However, we can generally say if the Day Stem and commander both belong to the same element, we can likely consider it as being "too much of a good thing"—oftentimes, an over-represented element exerts excessive influence on the chart. Specifically, in this case, Earth energy is heavy, slow to move, and can be overly stubborn. The "Prime Minister," acting as the arm and the voice of the "Queen," may be too strong-willed (or too self-serving) when it comes to manifesting the will of the Queen on this nation.

Janey Yin's Partner

Janey Yin Day Branch is Mao 卯, which is Yin Wood. In the Five Element Control Principle, we see that Wood controls Earth. You may at first welcome the controlling and refining influence of Wood (the

“King”) on an Earth (the “Queen”) that we suspect might be represented excessively in this chart. However, the King consort (“Partner”) does not typically wield enough power to totally counterbalance the influence of the commander on the Day Stem. The Wood Element of the chart would have to be very strong to neutralize double Earth energy.

From a Chinese medicine perspective, the weak Wood here indicates that Janey Yin is likely to have imbalance in her liver function and/or immune system.

Janey Yin’s Day Stem: State of the Union

The conclusion? Janey Yin’s Day Stem is not well balanced by the other elements in her chart. Ji 己 (Yin Earth) is strongly influenced by the commander Yin Earth energy, Chou 丑. Although the Mao 卯 Yin Wood energy from the Day Branch tempers some obdurate tendencies a bit, Janey Yin’s Day Stem is overly strong (excess), which actually weakens its ability to function on all levels. If you still have doubts, take a quick look at her Month and Hour Stems and note that they, too, are Yin Earth!

From a health perspective, this excess Earth may suggest that Janey Yin may experience problems with her digestive function and/or diabetes. We will learn more about her various health susceptibilities when we take a look at the rest of her chart.

Day Stem Sample Exercise 2

Identify the Day Stem, the commander, and the partner of our friend Janey Yang: 11 February 1944 @ 20:30 ♀. Use this information to assess the balance of her Day Stem. As before, you will find my commentary below.

Janey Yang ♀
11 February 1944 @ 20:30

丁	戌	辛

Commentary

Janey Yang’s Day Stem

In the case of our friend Janey Yang, her self is represented by Yi 乙, Yin Wood.

Janey Yang’s Commander

Janey Yang’s “Commander” is Yin 寅, Yang Wood. Generally speaking,

when we find Stems or Branches of the same element as the Day Stem in the chart, we think of them as "siblings" or "friends" of the Day Stem. Here, the Yang Wood commander acts as this kind of sibling/friend support of the Yin Wood Day Stem. We can extrapolate that Janey Yang by and large has no trouble having friends or family in her life who are readily available to act as a strong support system for her.

Janey Yang's Partner

Janey Yang's Day Branch is Si 巳, Yin Fire, and could drain a little of Janey's energy. Fire is also her Talent Element, which indicates that Janey Yang's life partner has some talent and is artistic.

Janey Yang's Day Stem: State of the Union

Although the Day Stem has good support from the Wood commander, she is surrounded by three Fire Elements (Month Stem, Hour Stem, and Day Branch) which strongly drain her energy. Overall, however, Janey Yang's Day Stem is not well balanced by her chart.

Day Stem Sample Exercise 3

Identify the Day Stem, the commander, and the partner of our friend Johnny Yin (3 September 1973 @ 11:02 ♂). Use this information to assess the balance of his Day Stem. As before, you will find my commentary below.

Johnny Yin ♂

3 September 1973 @ 11:02

Commentary

Johnny Yin's Day Stem

In the case of our friend Johnny Yin, his self is represented by Ren 壬, Yang Water.

Johnny Yin's Commander

Johnny Yin's "Commander" is Shen 申, Yang Metal. Remember the Five Element Birth Principle: Metal gives birth to Water. Fundamentally, Johnny Yin's Day Stem is well supported by the commander.

Johnny Yin's Partner

Johnny Yin's Day Branch is Yin 寅, Yang Wood. As Wood is the child of Water, Johnny Yin's Day Branch is absorbing the energy from the

Day Stem, which generally depletes the Day Stem. From this relationship, we can also assume that Johnny Yin is a generous caretaker of his own life partner.

Johnny Yin's Day Stem: State of the Union

Johnny Yin's Day Stem (Ren 壬) is well supported by the commander (Shen 申). We also see this nourishing Metal–Water relationship in his Month Stem (Geng 庚), which means he is well supported by his family and friends. However, both the Day Branch (Yin 寅) and the Hour Stem (Bing 丙) drain some energy from Ren 壬, weakening Johnny Yin's Day Stem a bit. As such, his Day Stem is not completely balanced by the energies in his chart.

Day Stem Sample Exercise 4

Identify the Day Stem, the commander, and the partner of our friend Johnny Yang: 7 November 1966 @ 22:11 ♂. Use this information to assess the balance of his Day Stem. As before, you will find my commentary below.

Johnny Yang ♂

7 November 1966 @ 22:11

申	壬	

Commentary

Johnny Yang's Day Stem

In the case of our friend Johnny Yang, his self is represented by Geng 庚, Yang Metal.

Johnny Yang's Commander

Johnny Yang's "Commander" is Xu 戌, Yang Earth. As Earth gives birth to Metal, his Day Stem is generally well supported by the Month Branch.

Johnny Yang's Partner

Johnny Yang's Day Branch is Wu 午, Yin Fire. We know that Fire controls Metal. Therefore, the Day Branch (Wu 午) will have either a refining or a depleting influence on the Day Stem, Geng 庚.

Johnny Yang's Day Stem: State of the Union

As discussed previously, the Day Stem is well supported by the Earth Element in the Month Branch position and is controlled by the Fire Element in the Day Branch position. Looking more closely at the neighboring positions and the rest of the basic chart, we see that Fire

and Earth are both strongly present in his chart. Remember that Fire gives birth to Earth, which will make the Earth commander very powerful. We predict that this excess Earth/Fire imbalance will result in depleted functioning of the Day Stem.

Balance—The Elusive Exception

It may come as no surprise that most people who seek an astrology reading will have some kind of imbalance present in their chart. Otherwise, why would they be coming to you for a reading? In an effort to provide you with an example of what an inherently balanced Day Stem looks like, I scoured years' worth of astrology readings. Below is the basic SiZhu BaZi of a female with a nicely balanced chart. I'll call her Lady Dao.

	Lady Dao ♀		
	28 December 1945 @ 04:55		
	甲	寅	丙

First, note that Lady Dao's Day Stem, Xin 辛, Yin Metal, is commanded by Zi 子, Yin Metal (Metal gives birth to Water), and is partnered with Wei 未, Yin Earth (Earth gives birth to Metal). We observe that the flow from Earth to Metal to Water is part of the natural flow of the Birth Principle Cycle. Next, pay attention to the immediately surrounding Month Stem (Wu 戊, Yang Earth) and the Hour Stem (Geng 庚, Yang Metal). The Metal Day Stem is flanked by nourishing Earth and supportive Metal Elements. In addition, the commander, Zi 子, is also Lady Dao's Talent Element, which absorbs energy from the Day Stem in a way that shows off her gifts of gentleness and wisdom, also ensuring that the energy of her Metal Day Stem has a forward-moving path (recall the Birth Cycle). Finally, her Money Element, Wood, is well presented in the Year Stem, Yi 乙, and Hour Branch, Yin 寅, which suggests to us that she has likely had a lifetime of financial stability. Overall, Lady Dao has a pretty well-balanced Day Stem!

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1 The GanZhi alchemical transformation relationships may be found in the following book: Master Zhongxian Wu and Dr Karin Taylor Wu (2016) *Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches—TianGan DiZhi:*

The Heart of Chinese Wisdom Traditions. London: Singing Dragon.

2
Master Zhongxian Wu and Dr Karin Taylor Wu (2016) *Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches—TianGan DiZhi: The Heart of Chinese Wisdom Traditions*. London: Singing Dragon.

7
CASE STUDIES
PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Traditional Chinese ink painting of LaoTzu teaching Confucius

Working with the BaZi requires mechanical precision with respect to the calculations, as well as a highly refined and ever-evolving ability to decode alchemical processes. In this chapter, I will share my analysis of our four friends' BaZi, whose charts we have been working with throughout the book. Hopefully, this will shed more light on your own path towards mastery of the BaZi arts.

Let us now go back through all the practice questions and gather the information we have compiled on our four friends. In the hope of bringing these elements of the BaZi and extended chart alive, you will also find a short commentary provided by each of our four friends (yes, they are real people!), on the basic analysis of his/her respective chart. After analyzing the charts "blindly," I asked our friends to offer honest and constructive feedback about where the analysis falls on and/or totally misses the mark. You will find their commentary interspersed throughout the analysis.

Analyzing Tip

Whenever we read a chart, the key point is checking whether the Element of the Day Stem is in balance with respect to the rest of the chart. Very generally speaking, a person with a balanced Day Stem will have a smoothly flowing experience of life's ups and downs. In comparison, a person with an unbalanced Day Stem (either excess or deficient) may experience more bumps along the way, and may be, by and large, in need of more external

support.

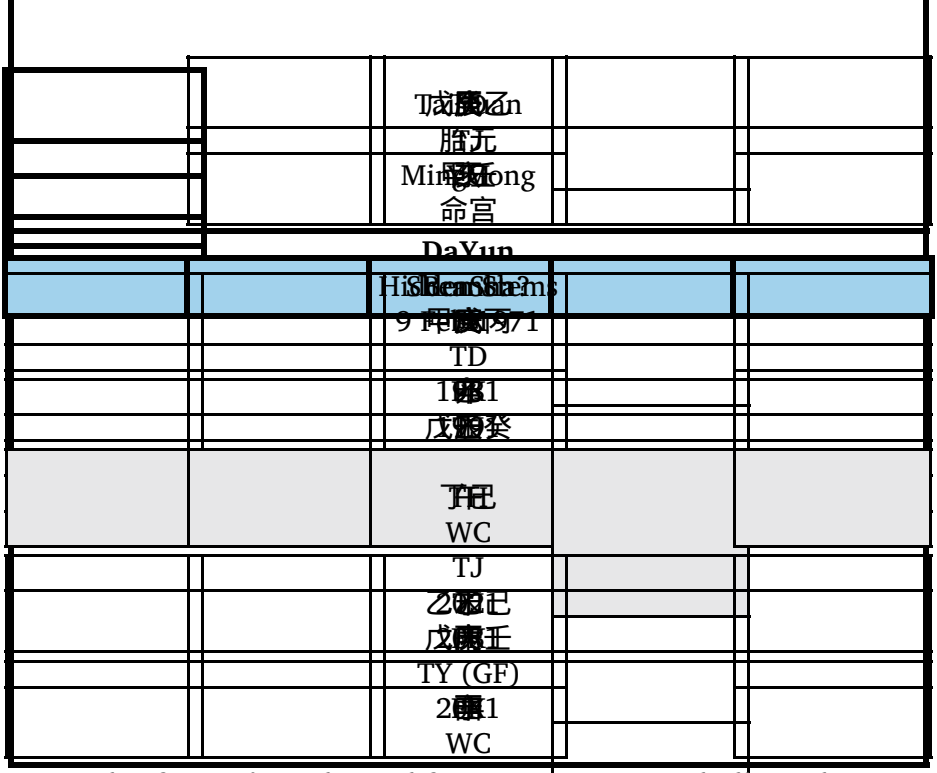
About Auspicious Elements

For the purposes of this workbook, “auspicious elements” are those related to the Money Element and Talent Element (and Source of Money) only. These provide cursory information about a person’s financial prosperity.

About the Balance Element

The Balance Element is a sophisticated tool used in high-level BaZi analysis. Aptly named, it is the element that brings balance to the entire chart. Based on the overall elemental patterns of the BaZi, a skilled practitioner can easily provide a significant amount of worthy, general recommendations without knowing the Balance Element. However, once skilled at correctly assessing the Balance Element, the practitioner will be able to present each client with very detailed and specific (and often life-changing) advice that (when adhered to) will improve the quality of his or her experience of daily living on many, many levels.

Janey Yin ♀
20 January 1966 @ 10:46
DaYun 大運 (男 –2021)
東 甲
寅 卯 辰 巳 午 未 申 酉
n/a
子 丑
丙 戊 庚
Conception and Destiny



General Information Gleaned from Day Stem Symbolism Chart

- Centered, deliberate, doubting, doubtable, emotionally heavy, faithful, firm, humble, nurturing, peace-loving, remarkable, stable, trepidatious, trustworthy, virtuous, worrisome, and worried.
- When her health is challenged, supporting the function of her gastrointestinal system will be key in helping her return to optimal health. She could have symptoms related to having poor digestion, poor bowel function, weight issues (being over- or underweight), diabetes, muscle weakness, lethargy, and excess worry.

Assessment

- Excess Earth/Imbalanced Day Stem Ji 己 (Yin Earth).

Five Elements Summary

Janey Yin's chart carries strong Earth energies. Although the Wood Element in the chart has some balancing influence, it is not strong enough to balance the excess Earth. With excess Earth energy, we can extrapolate that Janey Yin knows her own mind, has a strong will,

and is generous when caring for others. This heavy Earth could manifest as emotional heaviness, weakness of digestive function, and/or weakness of the body's muscle layer. Metal, Water, and Fire Elements are not well represented, which suggests she is susceptible to weak Qi in her lungs, kidneys, and heart, and could hold grief and fear within sometimes.

Janey Yin's Commentary

Overall, this reading looks accurate to me. I have muscular dystrophy, which means I have muscle weakness all over my body. I sometimes have feelings of fear for my future situation.

Auspicious Elements

- **Money:** Water is Janey Yin's Money Element. In her BaZi chart, we only see Water represented as a Hidden Stem (Gui Water in the Month Branch), which means Water is very weak. We can predict that she has had financial difficulties throughout her life.
- **Talent/Source of Money:** Metal is Janey Yin's Talent Element and the source of her money. As you can see, she has Metal hidden within three Branches, showing us that she holds some talent that will be a possible source of income. Incorporating Metal in her daily life will be of great benefit to her financially.

Janey Yin's Commentary

Yes, I have been experiencing financial difficulties. I do feel like I have the ability to make more money but also that I have been lacking the energy to make it happen.

TaiYuan (Conception)

- GengChen 庚辰. The Yang Metal Yang Earth energy present at conception helps bring a small balancing force to the excess Yin Earth energy of her Day Stem and commander (Metal helps draw energy away from the excess Earth). We suspect Janey Yin has some steady, albeit small, support from her family of origin. From the presence of Earth (her primary imbalance) in her conception energy, we can also predict that any major health issue Janey Yin has is genetically related.

Janey Yin's Commentary

Yes to all. Muscular dystrophy is a genetic disorder. As for my family, they live far away and I see them only once or twice a year. Also, my sister has been helping me a little financially these last two years.

MingGong (Destiny)

- DingHai 丁亥 (HaiGong 亥宫, or Palace of Longevity). We expect her to be a female of generous heart and spirit, always offering to help others, and blessed with a long life. Remember that Hai 亥 is her Wandering Horse, so we predict that she has a life full of travels, and that it is quite possible that she has or will move far away from her place of birth.

Janey Yin's Commentary

Yes. I was born in Canada and now live in the US. I am the only one in my family to move far away. I have traveled by car extensively throughout North America. I also lived in Australia for a year and have traveled throughout Europe and in Morocco.

ShenSha

1. Current DaYun

- JiaWu 甲午 (2011–2021). In general, during times that are strongly influenced by Earth energy (years, months, days, or hours), Janey Yin will experience a stronger pull towards imbalance in all aspects of her life. In this cycle, we find Wood and Fire. Remember that Wood gives birth to Fire and Fire gives birth to Earth. Janey Yin may find that this decade presents her with challenges and difficulties in many ways.

Janey Yin's Commentary

Yes, this has been true, especially challenging issues concerning my family.

2. FengKong

- Yin 寅, Mao 卯, Shen 申, and You 酉 are FengKong positions. We found Mao in her Day Branch, the partner position, which means that she got married relatively late in life. In China a "late marriage" was traditionally one in which the person got married after 25 years of age. Of

course, societal norms are changing in this regard, so we can regard a “late marriage” as one that took place after 30 years of age.

Janey Yin’s Commentary

Yes, I got married when I was 33.

3. FuYin

- We do not see FuYin in her Four Pillars, TaiYuan, or MingGong. However, these will exert their influence when seen in DaYun as well as each time a FuYin pair appears in the calendar (whether it be year, month, day, or hour) throughout her life. For instance, we note that the Year of JiaWu 甲午 (around 2014) is FuYin with her current DaYun JiaWu 甲午. This lets us know that the JiaWu 甲午 Year (4 February 2014 to 4 February 2015) may likely have been one of the most difficult years of her life. Based on the symbolic meaning of both Jia 甲 and Wu 午, we can guess that she might have suffered from some significant emotional obstacles and/or physical pain related to the head, neck, spine, and/or heart. FuYin energy is typically experienced as suffering related to one’s self or very close relatives.

Janey Yin’s Commentary

Yes, very true—I had severe night sweats and debilitating frozen shoulder, plus the added stress of my mother suffering and being hospitalized (and far away), and my brother-in-law (who was quite ill) moved in with us temporarily. It was mentally, emotionally, and physically challenging, at times feeling almost unbearable.

4. TianYi (Good Fortune)

- Zi 子 and Shen 申. Not found in her Four Pillars, MingGong, or TaiYuan, these will exert their influence when seen in DaYun. DaYun, years, months (etc.) with Zi 子 or Shen 申 will be auspicious times for her.

No comment

5. TaoHua

- Wu 午 and Zi 子. Not found in her Four Pillars, MingGong, or TaiYuan, these will exert most of their influence when

they appear in DaYun. For example, her current DaYun, JiaWu 甲午, contains one of her Peach Blossoms (Wu 午), which means she will have a strong romantic relationship or, if already partnered, her partner relationship will grow stronger during this ten-year period.

Janey Yin's commentary

Yes, my husband and I have been through many trials and we love and support each other.

6. YiMa

- Hai 亥 and Si 巳. Si is found in two positions in her BaZi, in the Year and Hour Branches. It is likely that she is an adventurous, well-traveled female. The previous DaYun (2000–2010) GuiSi 癸巳 was a good time for her to travel broadly or relocate.

Janey Yin's Commentary

Yes, we traveled to Morocco and moved into a new house during this time period.

7. TianDe

- Geng 庚. Found in her TaiYuan, the heavens placed a blessing upon Janey Yin at the moment of her conception. Geng 庚, which has qualities such as sharp, just, righteous, and clear, represents a highly evolved spirituality. We can imagine that Janey Yin's personal form of spiritual expression is where she has always drawn great strength. Not found in her Four Pillars or MingGong, these will also exert their influence when seen in DaYun.

Janey Yin's Commentary

I have had a regular Qigong practice since 2005, which has really helped shift things for me on so many levels. Qigong and my teacher (Master Zhongxian Wu) give me hope when I really need it. I am so thankful for my teacher!

8. TianYi (Medicine)

- Zi 子. Not found in her Four Pillars, TaiYuan, or MingGong, this will exert its influence when seen in DaYun.

No comment

9. WenChang

-

Wu 午 and You 酉. Not found in her Four Pillars, TaiYuan, or MingGong, these will exert their influence when seen in DaYun. Interestingly, this current DaYun is also her WenChang, which means she has likely been busy studying and gaining new knowledge during these last ten years.

Janey Yin's Commentary

Yes, Qigong!

10. Taiji

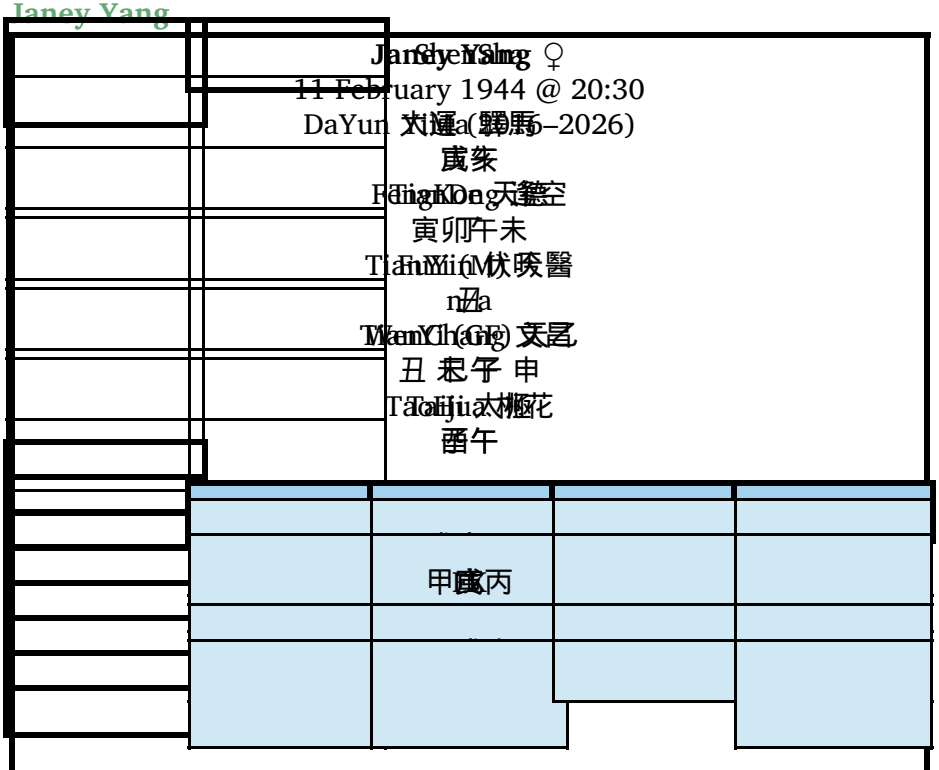
•

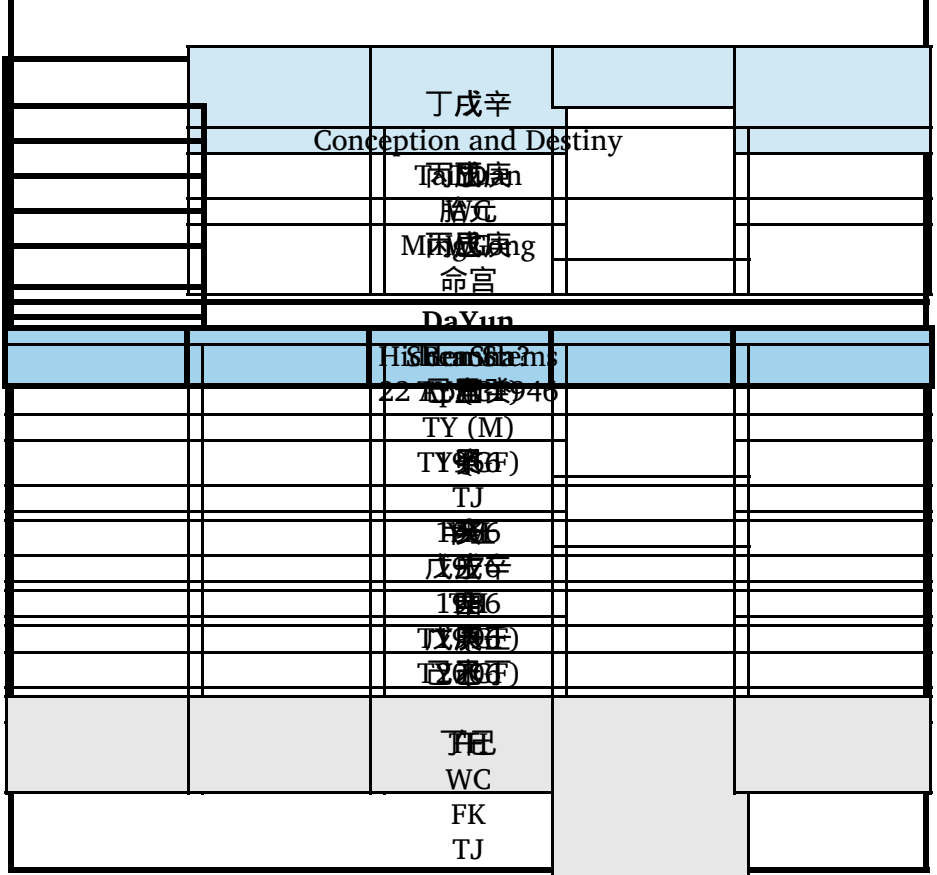
Janey Yin's Taiji is Zi 子, Wu 午, Chen 辰, Xu 戌, Chou 丑, and Wei 未, one of which appears in her basic BaZi chart (as the commander, Chou 丑). Therefore, we expect that she is sensitive, intuitive, and spiritual, with an active interest and dedicated pursuit of a mystic tradition from anywhere around the world. More interestingly, her current DaYun is also her Taiji, which indicates this ten-year period is an opportune time for her to awaken her consciousness and move towards a deeper understanding of her spiritual expression.

Janey Yin's Commentary

Qigong is definitely helping me with this.

Janey Yang





General Information Gleaned from Day Stem Symbolism Chart

- Flexible, gentle, compassionate, kind, strong, vital, stiff, strong-tempered, and raging.
- When her health is challenged, supporting the function of her liver and immune system will be key in helping her return to optimal health. She could have symptoms related to neck stiffness, tight ligaments, hepatitis, decreased immune function, arthritis, and depression.

Assessment

- Weak Wood/Imbalanced Day Stem Yi 乙 (Yin Wood).

Five Elements Summary

In this chart we see a lot of Fire! Fire is the child of Wood and can be draining. Although Janey Yang's Day Stem does have support from the Wood commander and Year Stem, it is not enough to maintain a steady energy in the face of all this Fire. We suspect that Janey Yang

has great joy and passion in her life and also a strong drive to help others. She has literary talent, and likely is a gifted writer and avid reader. She also has an inner drive to be active, which may end up leaving her feeling exhausted. The excess Fire in her chart points to a potential weakness in heart function and problems with eyesight. Metal is not strongly represented, suggesting that she probably has inadequate lung function and even carries a certain degree of sadness throughout her life. With this imbalanced Day Stem, we suspect she experiences an ineffective immune response at times.

Janey Yang's Commentary

I do feel depressed at times but not often and it is easy to come out of it. Before, I had a temper, but these days I feel I am more even-tempered, hence less rage. I hardly have rage against certain individuals. My rage is against injustice and atrocities against other human beings, especially the innocents. Perhaps this rage makes me write about history, focusing on atrocities.

It is right on target that I have been having neck pain and stiffness, tight ligaments, especially around the neck. I have not suffered from hepatitis (fortunately).

It is true that I have passion and drive to be of assistance to others. I have a weak heart and right now I have glaucoma in my right eye. I do feel sad at times since I lost my husband 16 years ago and especially now having lost my partner a year ago.

All in all the analysis is correct!

Auspicious Elements

- **Money:** Earth is Janey Yang's Money Element. In her chart, there are three hidden Earth Elements (Year, Month, and Day Branches) and one Earth Element in the Hour Branch. This indicates she has been able to have some savings throughout her life.
- **Talent/Source of Money:** Fire is Janey Yang's Talent Element and is the source of her money. As we discussed previously, Janey Yang is surrounded by the Fire Element, signaling not only that she is highly artistic and talented, but also that these gifts provide her with decent opportunities to generate some income.

Janey Yang's Commentary

Financially, I have been well provided throughout my life, although I was financially tight in the past ten years or so, because my ex-partner purchased high-end items (a luxury car, sailboat, top-of-the-line equipment and construction materials, etc.), all of which I financed.

Since I have been producing academic works with a limited readership, my income is rather modest. However, because of the type of work I do, I have been well funded by some academic institutions.

TaiYuan (Conception)

- Janey Yang's conception energy, DingSi 丁巳, carries Fire energy, which is also her Talent Element. We may assume that she inherited her impressive scholarly aptitude from her ancestral line. She perhaps also received an inheritance as well.

Janey Yang's Commentary

My mother's side produced a lot of Confucian scholars for generations, working for the local lord.

MingGong (Destiny)

- JiSi 己巳 (SiGong TianWen 巳宫天文, aka Palace of Knowledge). With this MingGong, we expect Janey Yang to be very scholarly. She is likely to be someone who has advanced in life through education, and may have married/partnered with someone who was able to provide a significant amount of financial stability.

Janey Yang's Commentary

Indeed, my late husband provided me with all the financial support for my research. He paid all the transportation and accommodation expenses for my research trips abroad.

ShenSha

1. Current DaYun

- WuWu 戊午. During this ten-year period (22 April 2016–2026), strong Earth and Fire energies will be interacting with her BaZi chart, and we expect her financial conditions to improve. On the other hand, this also brings more Fire to an already excess Fire picture, which may bring some challenges to her health status. We will advise her to take

good care of her heart function during this DaYun!

Janey Yang's Commentary

My financial condition has improved greatly after I separated last year from my partner of 15 years.

2. FengKong

- We find FengKong Yin 寅 on her Month Branch, the commander position. Janey Yang has a particular level of spiritual detachment that allows her to delve very deeply into the heart of whatever spiritual traditions she follows.

Janey Yang's Commentary

I have lived through two major traumatizing experiences in my adult life. During these times, my Qigong practice helped keep me in balance, physically, mentally, and spiritually.

I am currently thinking of a certain spiritual practice I want to follow and am planning to make a trip to Arizona early next year for that purpose.

3. FuYin

- Not found in her Four Pillars, TaiYuan, or MingGong, these will exert their influence when seen in individual years or in DaYun. For example, the year of BingXu 丙戌 (February 1946 to February 1947) was FuYin with her Hour Pillar, and she may have experienced a severe illness during that time. We would expect the health problem to be related to her digestion function, eyesight, and/or heart function.

Janey Yang's Commentary

True, I was very sickly during those years.

4. TianYi (Good Fortune)

- Janey Yang's TianYi is Chou 丑, Wei 未, Zi 子, and Shen 申. We find Shen 申 in the Year Pillar, which means she generally receives a great deal of emotional support whenever she encounters some obstacles in life.

Janey Yang's Commentary

True, I always had emotional support from my family and friends.

5. TaoHua

- You 酉 and Wu 午. Not found in her Four Pillars, MingGong,

or TaiYuan, these will exert their influence when seen in DaYun. For example, her current DaYun WuWu 戊午 holds the Peach Blossom Wu 午, which means she may have a romantic relationship or, if already partnered, deepen the strength of her relationship during this ten-year period.

Janey Yang's Commentary

Yaaay! I will encounter someone I love in the near future? I hope so.

6. YiMa

- Yin 寅 and Hai 亥. Yin 寅 is seen in the Month Branch, which is the commander position of her BaZi. It is likely that she is an adventurous, well-traveled female, and has lived in many different places throughout her life.

Janey Yang's Commentary

True, I have lived in Japan, Taiwan, the Philippines, India, Hawaii, and mainland United States, and have traveled in Europe, Southeast Asia, and China.

7. TianDe

- Ding 丁. Found in the TaiYuan position, this shows that the heavens placed a blessing upon her at the moment of her conception and that she has lived her whole life with strong protecting energy from her ancestral line.

Janey Yang's Commentary

Yes, I feel so. I have always been protected by someone or by spirit when certain disaster was about to strike.

8. TianYi (Medicine)

- Chou 丑. Not found in her Four Pillars, TaiYuan, or MingGong, this will exert its influence when seen in DaYun.

No comment

9. WenChang

- Si 巳 and Wu 午. Not found in her Four Pillars, we find Si 巳 in both TaiYuan and MingGong positions. These will exert their influence when seen in DaYun. We see that Janey Yang is gifted with the scholarly skills of literature and writing. Her current DaYun is also her WenChang, which means this ten-year period is a particularly auspicious time

for her to continue her studies, perhaps even writing or publishing books.

Janey Yang's Commentary

Good to know! I have published many books, including translations, and have been working on a new book. As for my background, I have two Master's Degrees and a PhD, and taught at university level for many years. Just last year, one of my books received a National Book Award.

10. Taiji
    - Zi 子 and Wu 午 are Janey Yang's Taiji. Not found in her Four Pillars, MingGong, or TaiYuan, these will exert their influence when seen in DaYun. Her current DaYun is also her Taiji Cycle, which indicates that this ten-year period will be particularly rewarding for her spiritually, especially if she is dedicated in her study and practice of her personal spiritual tradition.

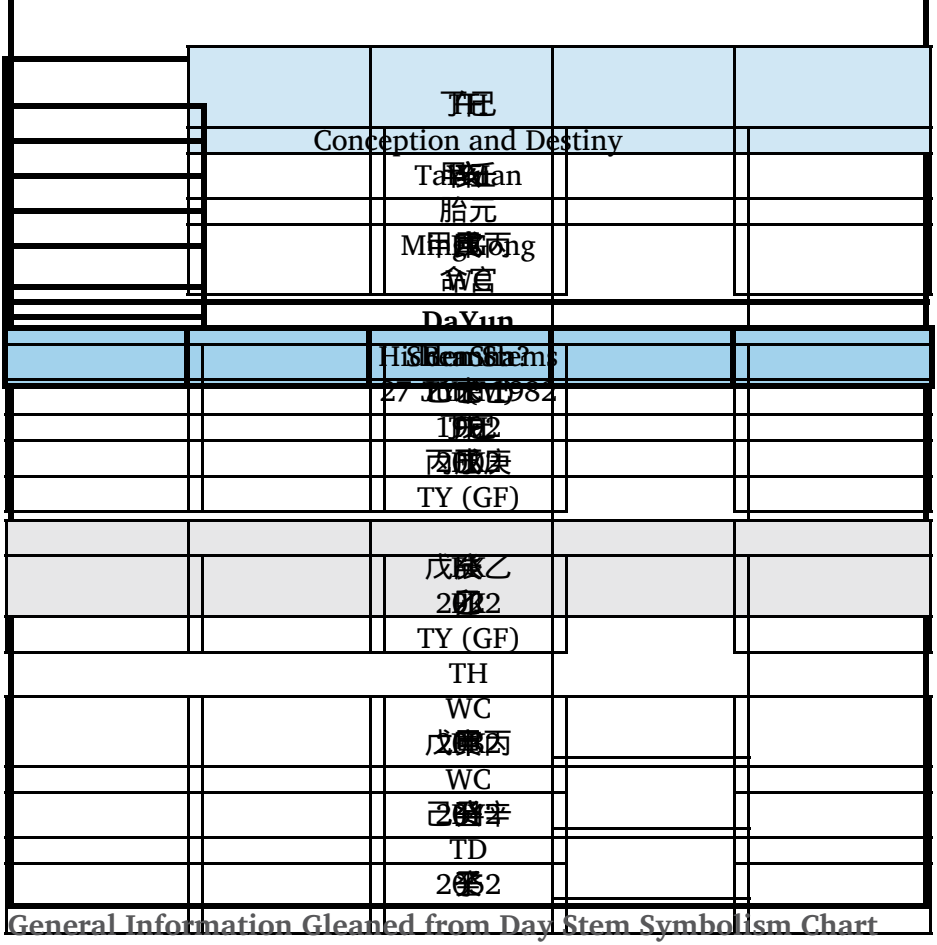
Janey Yang's Commentary

Perfect! The overall analysis is amazing. I strive to continue my spiritual practice.

Johnny Yin

Johnny Yin ♂
3 September 1973 @ 11:02
DaYun 大運 (2012–2022)

	戊午	庚申	
	甲戌	戊寅	



General Information Gleaned from Day Stem Symbolism Chart

- Flowing, soft, smart, nourishing, easy-going, fearful, overwhelmed, and devastated.
- When his health is challenged, supporting the function of his genitourinary system will be key in helping him return to optimal health. He could have symptoms related to urinary bladder problems, back pain, weak knees, and poor blood circulation.

Assessment

- Weak Ren 壬 Water/Imbalanced Day Stem.

Five Elements Summary

In this BaZi chart, Johnny Yin's Day Stem Ren Water is imbalanced and he likely has impaired functioning of his bladder, kidney, and/or blood circulation. Wood and Earth energies are also not well

represented, which suggests he may have issues with his immune system and digestive function.

Johnny Yin's Commentary

In December 2014, I was diagnosed with an estimated 7–9cm tumor entangling two mediastinal lymph nodes between my heart and lungs. My left lung bronchials were compromised, causing labored breathing and blood-tinged sputum. Biopsy confirmed large B-cell non-Hodgkins lymphoma. I used to experience chronic constipation before my cancer diagnosis. Chemotherapy also seemed to exacerbate the problem. However, I have healed quite well using nutritional therapies. My left lower back often feels stiff/contracted in the mornings, especially after too much physical and/or emotional stress. When this occurs, my left kidney feels compressed and "without fluidity and vitality."

Auspicious Elements

- **Money:** Fire is Johnny Yin's Money Element. The Fire Element is sufficiently present in his chart to indicate to us that he should not struggle with finances in his life.
- **Talent/Source of Money:** Wood is Johnny Yin's Talent Element and the source of his money. In this chart, we see only one position with the Wood Element. This lets us know that he does not have many opportunities to show off his talent, and although he is likely to be financially stable, he does not have a strong enough source of money to be extremely wealthy.

Johnny Yin's Commentary

I had a middle-class upbringing and my family generally was financially stable. Although I never had a high-paying salary/job, I usually earned enough to get by. I've spent the last decade working in the healing arts and this has provided sufficient income for our family. Even after having to stop working in order to focus 100 percent on the healing process from cancer, donations and disability checks provided enough financial support.

TaiYuan (Conception)

- XinHai 辛亥. The Metal and Water Elements of the TaiYuan

adds to the picture of excess Water in the Four Pillars, overwhelming the chart with more Water energy and subsequently making the Metal energy heavier. We conclude that he has a susceptibility to health issues involving his lung/large intestine system and kidney/bladder system. Emotionally, he may suffer from grief and/or fear.

Johnny Yin's Commentary

At birth, I spent my first four nights sleeping in a hospital bassinet in the nursery (with my mother in a separate room down the hall). During my mid-20s I recalled this event through dreams in which I saw myself trapped in a clear box, feeling alone and afraid. It was only through several years of deep meditation practice that I came to understand that the visions in my dreams were actually suppressed memories of the first days after my birth. Breastfeeding was also very challenging for me as well. A few months after my birth, I was diagnosed with pneumonia and hospitalized for two nights. I struggled with asthma on and off throughout my childhood until my late teen years. As a child I went to the Emergency Room (ER) twice during acute asthma attacks. I used bronchodilators occasionally and other pharmaceuticals to control wheezing and coughing until I was about 17. I also experienced labored breathing during panic attacks in my early 20s. More recent traumatic life events have caused excessive fear, frustration, and grief in my life, and lung issues have somewhat resurfaced.

MingGong (Destiny)

- JiaYin 甲寅. Both Yang Wood Elements here create a strong fighting energy with the Yang Metal Elements of the Month Pillar. Shen 申, in the commander position, will likely "cut down" the Yang Wood of his MingGong. From a health perspective, this weakened Yang Wood suggests problems with his head, neck, spine, gallbladder, immune system, and/or lymph system. Luckily, Yin 寅 is also his FengKong, which helps to reduce the potentially problematic influence of this Metal–Wood conflict.
- YinGong 寅宮 (TianQuan 天權/Palace of Leadership). Smart, easy-to-achieve accomplishments; a powerful position in

middle age. However, the Yin 寅 FengKong diminishes some of the influence of MingGong.

Johnny Yin's Commentary

I have noticed that I experience more health challenges and feel weaker during the month of October each year.

I look forward to being trusted in a powerful position and achieving accomplishments so that I can use them to better serve others.

ShenSha

1. Current DaYun

- BingChen 丙辰 (27 June 2012–2022). During this ten-year DaYun the predominant energetic forces influencing his life will not be balancing. Bing 丙 Yang Fire likely stirs up the underlying conflict in his chart, which could result in further weakening of the Metal Element. In the Wood Fire Year (2014), this conflicting energy was likely exacerbated, and he may have suffered from some illness related with the lung/large intestine system.

Johnny Yin's Commentary

During each summer of 2013, 2014, and 2015, I experienced traumatic events and faced extremely challenging decisions. In December 2014, I was diagnosed with an estimated 7–9cm tumor entangling two mediastinal lymph nodes between my heart and lungs. My left lung bronchials were compromised for months, causing labored breathing and blood-tinged sputum. Biopsy results confirmed large B-cell non-Hodgkins lymphoma. My symptoms actually began during a stressful summer in 2014 and progressed into the fall. Two close family members also passed away in 2014 (one tragically and unexpectedly during the summer).

2. FengKong

- We see FengKong Yin 寅 in his Day Branch (the partner position) and in the MingGong (the destiny position), which means that he likely got married relatively late in life (after age 30). The presence of FengKong also lets us know that he is a person with a high level of spiritual clarity.

Johnny Yin's Commentary

I got married in 2009 (at 36 years old). I was raised in an open-

minded atheist family where religion and spirituality were not emphasized. At age 24 I began practicing Yoga, Qigong, meditation, and various healing arts. Years of inner cultivation have definitely gifted my life with more spiritual and emotional clarity.

3. FuYin
    - GuiChou 癸丑, found in the 2037–2047 DaYun. This ten-year cycle may present him with some significant life challenges.

Johnny Yin's Commentary

During my journey through cancer, I discovered a deeper level of spiritual resilience and physical perseverance that I never knew I possessed. I hope to approach the 2037–2047 DaYun, which doesn't read so "Lucky" for me, with an even stronger resilience and wisdom to effortlessly navigate through any challenges it presents.

4. TianYi (Good Fortune)
    - Mao 卯 and Si 巳. Not found in his Four Pillars, TaiYuan, or MingGong, these will exert most of their influence when seen in DaYun. For instance, we see Si 巳 in his 2002–2012 DaYun. We suspect that he experienced the general flow of his life during this period as pretty smooth.

Johnny Yin's Commentary

Yes, during my 30s I enjoyed good, vibrant physical energy. I had flexible jobs which created opportunities for spiritual growth and meaningful travel experiences.

5. TaoHua
    - Wu 午 and Mao 卯. As we find his Peach Blossom Wu 午 in his Hour Branch, we know it is an external Peach Blossom. He generally has strong romantic energy and may have had a series of non-monogamous relationships during his 1992–2002 ten-year cycle. It should be easy for him to be happy and partnered in his life.

Johnny Yin's Commentary

From 1992 to 2004, I struggled to discover my own path of spiritual clarity and emotional harmony. During those years, I suffered from an unresolved emotional trauma (of being

sexually molested as a preteen) which distorted my perception of the important bonding of sexual intimacy and emotional love. Consequently, both of these factors led me to fear intimate emotional relationships and engage in many non-monogamous relationships. After eventually finding emotional clarity, I began to experience more monogamous relationships. I've been happily married since 2009.

6. YiMa
    - Hai 亥 and Shen 申. Hai 亥 is seen in the TaiYuan position. Therefore, we consider the possibility that his mother might have a degree of instability during her pregnancy. We see Shen 申 in his Month Branch, the commander position. Johnny Yin is an adventurous male and likely to be a great world traveler.

Johnny Yin's Commentary

My mother has expressed no degree of emotional instability during her pregnancy. Six months prior to my birth, my parents decided to buy a home and moved from their apartment to live across the street from my mother's parents. Although their intention was to provide perinatal stability and support, the timing of the move has suggested to me that it may have caused a brief period of "physical instability" during the transition of moving into their new home.

And yes, I am particularly adventurous when it involves world travel. I love cultural and ecological tourism.

7. TianDe
    - Gui 癸. Johnny Yin has a heavenly blessing in his Year Stem! Although there are some fundamental imbalances in this BaZi chart, the potential negative effects are somewhat mitigated by the influence of this auspicious star. He is protected by energy from the universe, from the natural world and/or from his ancestral lineage.

Johnny Yin's Commentary

During my journey with cancer, there were multiple extended periods of time in which my physical body was too weak to perform the basic tasks necessary to support myself and my family (including my newborn daughter). As waking up physically disabled became a somewhat common occurrence

for me, I turned to meditation and prayer to keep my spirit positive. I remember feeling an eerie sense of vulnerability at times, as if there was an inner voice telling me that I would not survive it if my spirit didn't stay positive and lost its will. I felt as though my physical body was like that of a car that had run out of gas and was running only on my positive "spiritual fumes." These "spiritual fumes" were continuously being "stoked" by each answered prayer and by each act of financial, physical, and emotional support. It was an indescribably profound and humbling experience of completely "letting go" and feeling "fully protected" by the universe.

8. TianYi (Medicine)
    - Wei 未. Not found in his Four Pillars, TaiYuan, or MingGong, this will exert its influence when seen in DaYun.

No comment

9. WenChang
    - Yin 寅 and Mao 卯. We see Yin 寅 in his Day Branch (the partner position) and in his MingGong, which means that he has a refined quality of scholarship and study and is skilled in literature and writing. He may spend a lot of time writing books for publication during the 2022–2042 DaYun.

Johnny Yin's Commentary

Although reading, writing, and literature were very challenging for me during my formative years (perhaps influenced by ADD and an always on-the-go lifestyle), I have slowly developed a passion for learning to read, write, and speak other languages. This has become something of a form of meditation for me. I discovered that it has improved my ability to read and write in English as well. Only recently have I even envisioned writing for publication in the future.

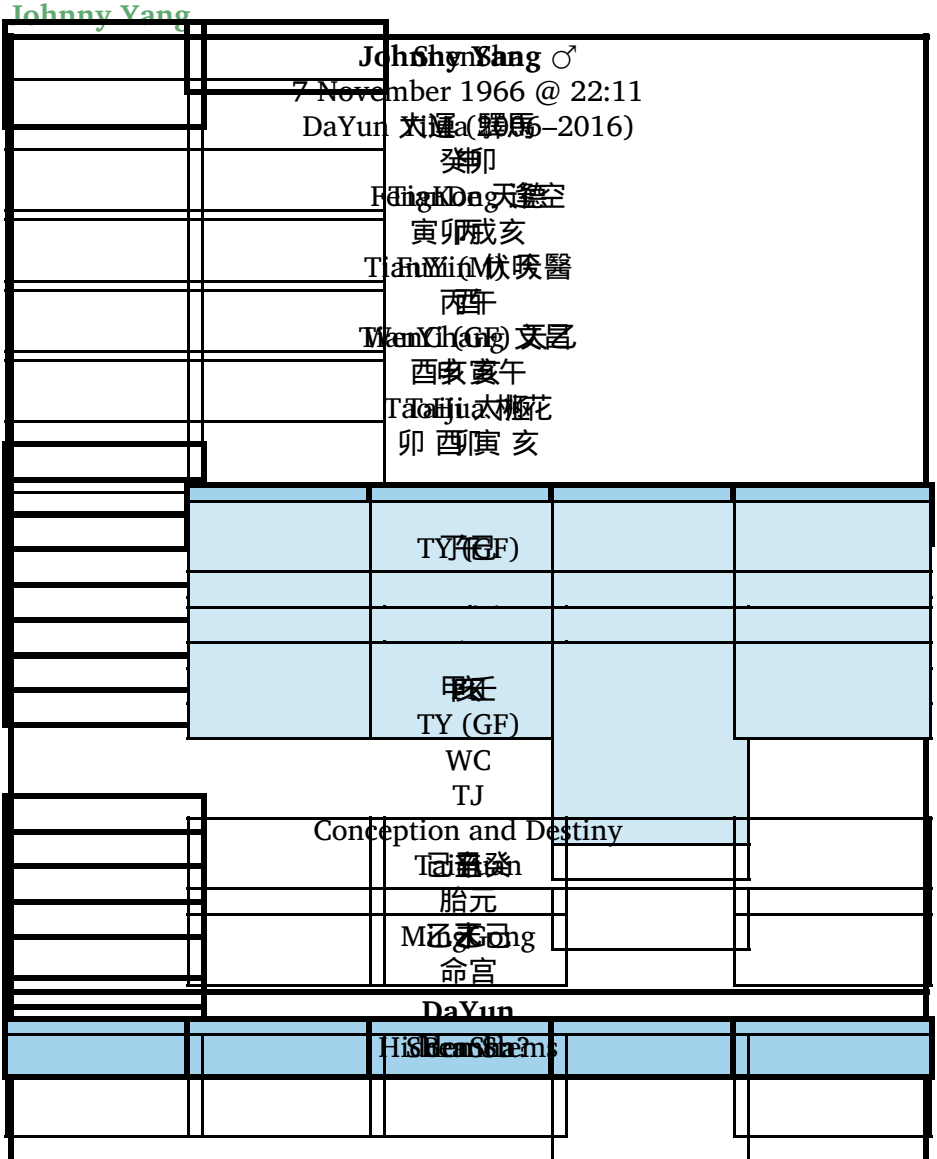
10. Taiji
    - Shen 申 and Si 巳. Johnny Yin has Taiji in the Month Branch, his commander position. This "Mystic's Star" helps him transform and release any obstacle he faces in his life. This auspicious star ensures that Johnny Yin has ample support from his family and friends, and this has held true throughout his entire life. With Taiji acting as

"Commander," Johnny Yin has great potential for deep and significant spiritual awakening.

Johnny Yin's Commentary

I have faith that there is a blessing hidden within every misfortune. During my journey through cancer/chemotherapy, so many family members, friends, and even strangers showed up to provide physical, financial, and/or emotional support. To feel this overwhelming amount of love and support was a significant spiritual awakening for me and gave me the strength to transform my dis-ease.

Johnny Yang



		11 D 1966 TY (GF)		
		WC		
		TJ		
		1966		
		己巳癸		
		甲戌丙		
		TY (GF)		
		邵 TH		
		TJ		
		戊寅癸		
		戊寅丙		
		2006		
		TY (GF)		
		TD		

General Information Gleaned from Day Stem Symbolism Chart

- Sharp, just, righteous, clear, spiritual, good judgment, critical, judgmental, depressed, violent, and misanthropic.
- When his health is challenged, supporting the function of his large intestine will be key in helping him return to optimal health. He could have symptoms related to constipation, dry skin, weak immune system, poor Qi circulation, and problems with the large intestine, bones, or skin.

Assessment

- Weak Yang Metal Geng 庚/Imbalanced Day Stem.

Five Elements Summary

We can easily see that there are strong Fire and Earth energies in Johnny Yang's chart. This indicates that he is a warm-hearted person with a genuine willingness to help others. Nevertheless, this excess Fire and Earth also suggests that he has potential weakness in the functioning of his heart, stomach, and/or muscle layer. The excess Fire and Earth could overburden his Day Stem, Geng 庚, affecting the function of the large intestine system. This taxing of his Metal could also manifest as a heavy sadness emotionally and/or as some type of

autoimmune disease. The Water Element in the chart is deficient, revealing a vulnerability to occasional weak kidney Qi.

Johnny Yang's Commentary

I have an autoimmune disease, multiple sclerosis. It definitely causes weakness in my muscles and, more recently, nerve pain. Frequent urination is also a symptom I experience. I have no noticeable problem with the large intestine other than slow bowels if I am not eating well. No problems with skin or bones.

Auspicious Elements

- **Money:** Wood is Johnny Yang's Money Element. The Wood Element is weakly represented in his chart. We can predict that money does not come easily to him, and that it may be a continual challenge for him to "get ahead" financially throughout his life.
- **Talent/Source of Money:** Water is Johnny Yang's Talent Element and the source of his money. Water is not well represented in his chart—Johnny Yang will have difficulties showing off his talents. We would not expect him to be the kind of person to build a business empire.

Johnny Yang's Commentary

Money: I have never been able to accumulate much wealth but have always been able to make enough to live comfortably. The last three years have been very tight financially.

Talent: Despite many opportunities to expand my business on to a larger stage, I have always seemed more comfortable keeping it primarily as a one-person show.

TaiYuan (Conception)

- JiChou 己丑. The presence of two Earth energies in the Stem and Branch of Johnny Yang's TaiYuan adds to the picture of excess Earth in his BaZi chart. We predict that he has health challenges related with the Earth Element, which could manifest as dysfunction of digestive function, muscle, and/or blood circulation. As we saw before with Janey Yin, this pattern of excess in the TaiYuan also suggests that he could have health issues that are prenatally (i.e. genetically) related.

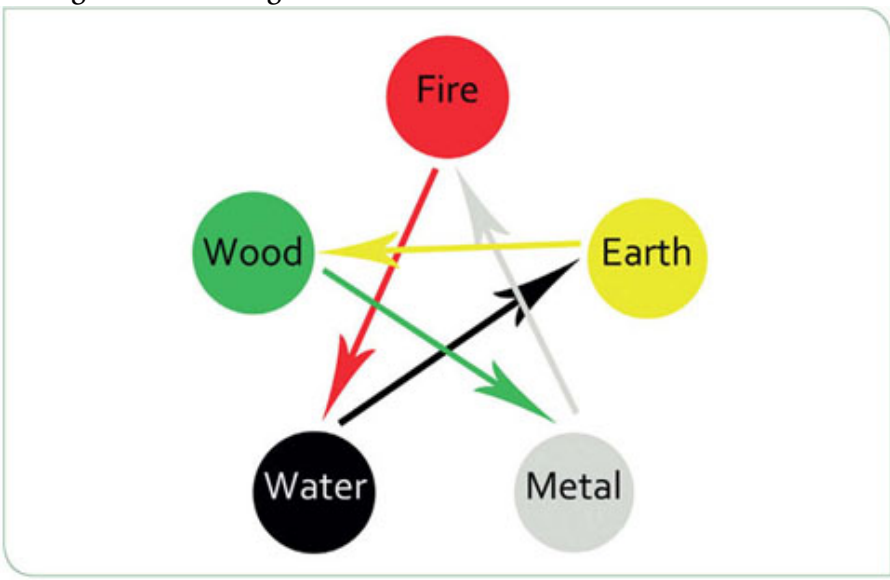
Johnny Yang's Commentary

Certainly some aspect of the MS is genetic. With much work and dietary restrictions, my digestive system works very well.

MingGong (Destiny)

- WeiGong 未宫/TianYi 天驛 (Palace of Changes). Lives far from support of family/ancestors; hard worker; big life changes/moves a lot—typically job-related.
- YiWei 乙未. The Stem Yi 乙 Wood here is not influential enough to control the excess Earth in the chart, while the Branch Wei 未 adds yet another Earth energy to the chart. According to a Five Elements Principle known as "Reverse Control Relationship,"* too much Earth will break Wood. We now suspect that Johnny Yang has another layer to his overall health issue, one that is related to the Wood Element. This means there could also be dysfunction in the liver, tendons, and/or immune system(s).

* As I have just used it in my analysis, I will briefly introduce the Five Element Reverse Control Relationship here for you. This relationship is conceptually similar to the Five Element Control Relationship, with the notable difference being that the direction of the controlling energy is reversed. Like the Control Relationship, the Reverse Control Relationship exerts its effects on a continuum from damaging to refining. Here is a diagram to illustrate this:



Johnny Yang's Commentary

I do not live in close proximity to family/ancestors, except my wife and children. I have lived in the same city for 23 years. In the last three years I have moved my work (place of business) three times, which has been very disruptive.

ShenSha

1. Current DaYun

- GuiMao 癸卯 (11 December 2006–2016). During the current (at the time of writing) ten-year cycle, both the Talent Element Water and Money Element Wood have been influencing Johnny Yang's chart. This lets us know that he should have had many opportunities to show off his talent and make good money. However, working hard in this way may have also been draining to his kidney and liver Qi. As it is almost the ending of the cycle, we can imagine that he might feel as though he is running out of steam and tires easily.

Johnny Yang's Commentary

Because of the moving of my business, money has been very strained for several years. Prior to that, income had been very comfortable. Recently (in the last six months), finances have begun to recover and look very positive. I work hard and feel successful in my field, and I love my work. It does, however, drain my energy and leave me very tired and it negatively affects my health.

2. FengKong

- We find FengKong Xu 戌 on his Month Branch, the commander position, and on his Hour Branch (Hai 亥). Spiritually speaking, Johnny Yang has a profound aptitude for detachment, acceptance, and letting things be. If he has chosen to pursue a practice from any of the world's spiritual traditions, it is likely that he feels his practice very deeply, perhaps even to the core of his being, and that it significantly shapes his daily life.

Johnny Yang's Commentary

I believe I am very accepting and tend to be detached. (On the good side, it allows me to watch things unfold with patience

without getting too caught up in the immediate emotion. On the not-so-good side, it can inhibit me from actively (and joyously) engaging in the moment.)

I feel my spiritual practice very deeply, and wish I could devote more time to it. I have practiced Qigong most days for the last ten years or so.

3. FuYin

- We see the FuYin pair BingWu 丙午 in the 2036–2046 DaYun. This indicates that he will likely experience some degree of obstacle and/or sadness energy during this ten-year period.

No comment

4. TianYi (Good Fortune)

- Johnny Yang's TianYi is You 酉, Hai 亥, Yin 寅, and Wu 午. We find three TianYi in his chart, which shows us that fortune has bestowed a great many blessings on him throughout his life. Whenever he is in need, there is always someone available to offer support.

Johnny Yang's Commentary

I feel very blessed and supported in my life.

5. TaoHua

- Mao 卯. Not found in his Four Pillars, MingGong, or TaiYuan, this will exert its influence when seen in DaYun. For example, his current DaYun, GuiMao 癸卯, holds his Peach Blossom, Mao 卯. Perhaps he entered into a new romantic relationship during this cycle, or has experienced a sweetly felt "renewal" of his partnership during this ten-year period.

Johnny Yang's Commentary

This does not match.

6. YiMa

- Shen 申. Not found in his Four Pillars, MingGong, TaiYuan, or DaYun. He is likely to be a person who likes to be settled in one place.

Johnny Yang's Commentary

Yes, I have lived in the same city for 23 years.

7. TianDe

- Bing 丙. Found in the Year Pillar, this reveals another heavenly blessing. It reinforces his good fortune of having lived with some level of protecting energy, whether it be from a cosmic influence of the universe, from somewhere in the natural world here on earth, and/or from his ancestral lineage.

No comment

8. TianYi (Medicine)

- You 酉. Not found in his Four Pillars, MingGong, TaiYuan, or DaYun.

No comment

9. WenChang

- Johnny Yang's WenChang is Shen 申 and Hai 亥. We find Hai 亥 in the Hour Branch position. He is likely to be a scholar, for example one who is a natural writer and avid about his studies, or someone with a number of advanced degrees.

Johnny Yang's Commentary

I have two advanced degrees and really enjoy little more than studying and deepening my understanding of underlying patterns. I would love to write more.

10. Taiji

- We find one Taiji, Hai 亥, in the Hour Pillar. When occurring, these stars will also exert a strong influence in DaYun. In general, we can assume that Johnny Yang is intuitive with a quality of "spiritual awakening." His current DaYun is also his Taiji, which indicates that this ten-year period has been particularly rewarding for him spiritually, especially if he has held a dedicated practice of spiritual cultivation.

Johnny Yang's Commentary

These last ten years have been transformative for me spiritually, with my practice of Qigong and study of Chinese metaphysics and natural medicine.

AFTERWORD

The end of this project has coincided with a political surprise that sent shock waves around the world. The 2016 US presidential election campaign was a contentious media sensation that ensnared the emotional state of millions of people around the world, with many coming to believe that the outcome of the race would endanger their most passionately held values. Across the globe, the election results were met with fervor (some jubilant, some riotous). From politics to family dynamics, from health challenges to traffic jams, we are all subject to the vicissitudes of life. What is it that determines our ability to hold on to feelings of peace and stability as we ride the waves?

It is frighteningly easy to cede the locus of control of our own daily experience to an external source. For me, the BaZi provides insight and understanding into my feelings and needs, providing an objective appreciation of how the shifting cosmic forces affect me on micro and macro time scales. For example, my chart dictates that I am likely to feel at least some level of discomfort if Yang Wood and Yang Metal are in strong opposition to one another. When thus challenged, I am able to call upon my chart (knowledge of the self) for direction in how to actively seek balancing whatever tendency is at play. Most often, Water is my panacea. As a wife and mother and sister and daughter and friend and neighbor, I find that knowledge of the BaZi (and a steadying self-cultivation practice) helps me turn from anger and judgment towards feelings of compassion ("Of course she is acting that way! Her Fire is way out of balance!"). As a physician, I have learned that helping people identify these types of patterns in themselves—that is to say, to know which things trigger which reactions in which anatomic/physiologic/mental-emotional/spiritual systems—and teaching them how they can take nourishing/optimizing/supportive actions to correct their imbalances has a much more meaningful and lasting effect on their long-term health than does telling them to take a handful of even the most judiciously selected supplements or natural medicines. The GanZhi BaZi is helpful and empowering in countless ways.

I remind myself of this now, while typing in the midst of heavy Stockholm snowfall, and thank the heavens for sending this powerful Water energy, gentle yet indomitable, to help me transform the extraordinarily conflicting post-election emotions, emanating from all directions and from millions of people, that I, with my sensitive-to-the-environment-Day-Stem-Metal self, have allowed to disrupt my

balance of heart and mind. In his infinite wisdom, LaoTzu perhaps said it best: *HuoXiFuZhiSuoYi, FuXiHuoZhiSuoFu* (禍兮福之所倚, 福兮禍之所伏)…which paraphases quite loosely as "Good relies on Bad, Bad hides within Good." I am thankful for all reminders that life is always changing. It is just as important to remember that a hidden seed of treasure may be found in a pile of refuse as it is to appreciate, without grasping, the simple moments of joy whenever we can, as they too will eventually slip away into something altogether more uninspiring.

I hope that this little book will help you learn to use the BaZi to find and maintain your sense of balance along the way.

Karin Taylor Wu
Stockholm, Sweden
9 November 2016

(A day which would later be documented as a record-breaking November "snow cannon," the Swedish way of describing a rapid deposit of snow created under specific conditions—the snowiest November day in 111 years!)

APPENDIX

ANSWERS TO PRACTICE EXERCISES

Answers to Practice Exercise 1

1.
RenWu 壬午
2.
BingXu 丙戌
3.
JiaZi 甲子
4.
GengZi 庚子
5.
YiHai 乙亥
6.
JiWei 己未
7.
YiChou 乙丑
8.
DingChou 丁丑
9.
YiMao 乙卯
10.
JiChou 己丑
11.
XinMao 辛卯
12.
GuiHai 癸亥
13.
DingYou 丁酉

Answers to Practice Exercise 2

1.
BingWu 丙午
2.
GengZi 庚子
3.
BingYin 丙寅
4.
YiYou 乙酉
5.
JiChou 己丑

6.
WuChen 戊辰
7.
DingHai 丁亥
8.
GuiMao 癸卯
9.
GengChen 庚辰
10.
GengWu 庚午
11.
BingShen 丙申
12.
YiChou 乙丑
13.
GengXu 庚戌

Answers to Practice Exercise 3

1.
BingZi 丙子
2.
JiaWu 甲午
3.
JiaYin 甲寅
4.
DingWei 丁未
5.
XinYou 辛酉
6.
YiMao 乙卯
7.
GengXu 庚戌
8.
BingWu 丙午
9.
XinHai 辛亥
10.
DingChou 丁丑
11.
XinChou 辛丑
12.

JiaYin 甲寅
13.
JiaYin 甲寅

Answers to Practice Exercise 4

1.
WuZi 戊子
2.
DingMao 丁卯
3.
JiSi 己巳
4.
GengZi 庚子
5.
GuiSi 癸巳
6.
WuZi 戊子
7.
WuZi 戊子
8.
GuiSi 癸巳
9.
YiWei 乙未 (Did you remember to adjust for Daylight Saving Time?)
10.
WuShen 戊申
11.
JiHai 己亥
12.
JiSi 己巳
13.
XinWei 辛未

Answers to Practice Exercise 5

Janey Yin ♀
20 January 1966 @ 10:46

Hidden Stems	Stems	
丙戊庚	戊	
己辛癸	辛	
卯	卯	
丙戊庚	戊	

Janey Yang ♀
11 February 1944 @ 20:30

Hidden Stems	Branches	Stems
戊	寅	壬
甲	戌	丙
丙	戌	庚
丁	戌	辛

Johnny Yin ♂
3 September 1973 @ 11:02

Hidden Stems	Branches	Stems
己	巳	癸
戊	寅	壬
甲	戌	丙
丁	巳	己

Johnny Yang ♂
7 November 1966 @ 22:11

Hidden Stems	Branches	Stems
丁	巳	己
丁	戌	辛
丁	巳	己
甲	亥	壬

Answers to Practice Exercise 6

1.
GengChen 庚辰
2.
DingSi 丁巳
3.
XinHai 辛亥
4.
JiChou 己丑

Answers to Practice Exercise 7

1.
DingHai 丁亥
2.
JiSi 己巳
3.
JiaYin 甲寅
4.
YiWei 乙未

Answers to Practice Exercise 8

1.

Janey Yin's DaYun began with GengYin 庚寅, 5 years, 0 months, 19 days, and 6 hours after her birth.

	Janey Yin		
	DaYun		
	Hidden Stems		
	(9 months) 1971		
	1981		
	戊申癸		
	戊寅丙		
	丁巳		
	乙巳		
	戊寅丙		
	2001		
	己未		

2.

Janey Yang's DaYun began with YiChou 乙丑, 2 years, 2 months, 10 days, and 16 hours after her birth.

	Janey Yang		
	DaYun		
	Hidden Stems		
	(22 months) 1946		
	1956		
	甲己己		
	戊辰辛		
	1966		
	戊午丁		
	己巳己		
	丁巳		
	丙戌庚		

3.

Johnny Yin's DaYun began with JiWei 己未, 8 years, 9 months, 24 days, and 4 hours after his birth.

	Johnny Yin		
	DaYun		
	Hidden Stems		
	(27 months) 1982		
	1992		

		丙午	庚
		戊辰	乙
		2022	
		戊寅	丙
		己亥	辛
		2052	
		甲戌	己

4.
Johnny Yang’s DaYun began with JiHai 己亥, 33 days and 16 hours after his birth.

	Johnny Yang		
	DaYun		
	Hidden Stems		
	(11 Dec 1966		
	1976		
	己巳		癸
	甲寅		丙
	卯		
	戊辰		癸
	戊戌		丙
	2036		
	乙卯		己

Answers to Practice Exercise 9

1.
Janey Yin’s FengKong are Yin 寅, Mao 卯, Shen 申, and You 酉, found in her Day Branch and several DaYun.
2.
Janey Yang’s FengKong are Yin 寅, Mao 卯, Wu 午, and Wei 未, found in her Month Branch and several DaYun.
3.
Johnny Yin’s FengKong are Yin 寅, Mao 卯, Chen 辰, and Si 巳, found in his Day Branch, MingGong Branch, and several DaYun.
4.
Johnny Yang’s FengKong are Yin 寅, Mao 卯, Xu 戌, and Hai 亥, found in his Month Branch, Hour Branch, and several DaYun.

Answers to Practice Exercise 10

1.
Janey Yin does not have significant FuYin in her chart.

2.
Janey Yang does not have significant FuYin in her chart.
3.
Johnny Yin's FuYin is GuiChou 癸丑, found in his Year Pillar and 2037–2047 DaYun.
4.
Johnny Yang's FuYin is BingWu 丙午, found in his Year Pillar and 2036–2046 DaYun.

Answers to Practice Exercise 11

1.
Janey Yin's TianYi (GF) are Zi 子 and Shen 申, found in her DaYun.
2.
Janey Yang's TianYi (GF) are Chou 丑, Wei 未, Zi 子, and Shen 申, found in her Year Branch and several DaYun.
3. Johnny Yin's TianYi (GF) are Mao 卯 and Si 巳, found in several DaYun.
4.
Johnny Yang's TianYi (GF) are You 酉, Hai 亥, Yin 寅, and Wu 午, found in his Year Branch, Day Branch, Hour Branch, and several DaYun.

Answers to Practice Exercise 12

1.
Janey Yin's TaoHua are Wu 午 and Zi 子, found in her DaYun.
2.
Janey Yang's TaoHua are You 酉 and Wu 午, found in her DaYun.
3.
Johnny Yin's TaoHua are Wu 午 and Mao 卯, found in his Hour Branch and several DaYun.
4.
Johnny Yang's TaoHua is Mao 卯, found in his DaYun.

Answers to Practice Exercise 13

1.
Janey Yin's YiMa are Hai 亥 and Si 巳, found in her Year Branch, Hour Branch, MingGong Branch, and DaYun.
2.
Janey Yang's YiMa are Yin 寅 and Hai 亥, found in her Month Branch and DaYun.

3.
Johnny Yin's YiMa are Hai 亥 and Shen 申, found in his Month Branch and TaiYuan Branch.
4.
Johnny Yang's YiMa is Shen 申, not found in his chart.

Answers to Practice Exercise 14

1.
Janey Yin's TianDe is Geng 庚, found in her MingGong Stem and DaYun.
2.
Janey Yang's TianDe is Ding 丁, found in her TaiYuan Stem.
3.
Johnny Yin's TianDe is Gui 癸, found in his Year Stem and DaYun.
4.
Johnny Yang's TianDe is Bing 丙, found in his Year Stem and DaYun.

Answers to Practice Exercise 15

1.
Janey Yin's TianYi (M) is Zi 子.
2.
Janey Yang's TianYi (M) is Chou 丑, found in her DaYun.
3.
Johnny Yin's TianYi (M) is Wei 未, found in her DaYun.
4.
Johnny Yang's TianYi (M) is You 酉.

Answers to Practice Exercise 16

1.
Janey Yin's WenChang are Wu 午 and You 酉, found in her DaYun.
2.
Janey Yang's WenChang are Si 巳 and Wu 午, found in her Day Branch, TaiYuan Branch, MingGong Branch, and DaYun.
3.
Johnny Yin's WenChang are Yin 寅 and Mao 卯, found in his Day Branch, MingGong Branch, and DaYun.
4.
Johnny Yang's WenChang are Shen 申 and Hai 亥, found in his Hour Branch and DaYun.

Answers to Practice Exercise 17

1.
Janey Yin's Taiji are Zi 子, Wu 午, Chen 辰, Xu 戌, Chou 丑, and Wei 未, found in her Month Branch, TaiYuan Branch, and several DaYun.
2.
Janey Yang's Taiji are Zi 子 and Wu 午, found in several DaYun.
3.
Johnny Yin's Taiji are Shen 申 and Si 巳, found in his Month Branch and DaYun.
4.
Johnny Yang's Taiji are Mao 卯, You 酉, Yin 寅, and Hai 亥, found in his Hour Branch and several DaYun.

WORKED BAZI CALCULATIONS FOR CASE STUDIES

I've included the line-by-line worked calculations for our four friends here, to help you identify any missteps you may have taken.

Janey Yin ♀ 20 January 1966 @ 10:46

Year Pillar

YP = R of (BY / 60) – 3
YP = R of (1965 / 60) – 3 (remember to adjust for the LiChun)
YP = 45 – 3
YP = 42 YiSi 乙巳

Month Pillar

MS = (#YS × 2) + #MB – 2*
MS = (2 × 2) + 2 (do not subtract 2 as she was born in January)
MS = 4 + 2
MS = 6 Ji 己
MB = #MB
MB = 2 Chou 丑
MP = JiChou 己丑

Day Pillar

DP = R of [(*Y × 5) + (*Y / 4) + 9 + *D + BM + I] / 60
DP = R of [(65 × 5) + (65 / 4) + 9 + 20 + 6 + 0] / 60 (she was born in January, Y = Y – 1)
DP = R of [325 + 16 + 35] / 60
DP = R of (376 / 60)
DP = R of (370 / 60) = 16 (60 goes into 376 6 times, with 16 remaining)
DP = 16 JiMao 己卯

Hour Pillar

HB = #HB
HB = 6 Si 巳
HS = (#DS × 2) + #HB – 2
HS = (6 × 2) + 6 – 2
HS = 12 + 4
HS = 16 – 10 (when the answer is greater than 10, remember to subtract 10 until the answer is greater than or equal to 10)
HS = 6 Ji 己
HP = JiSi 巳己

Janey Yang ♀ 11 February 1944 @ 20:30

Year Pillar

YP = R of (BY / 60) – 3 (good idea to check LiChun here with an early February birthdate)
YP = R of (1944 / 60) – 3
YP = 24 – 3
YP = 21 JiaShen 甲申

Month Pillar

MS = (#YS × 2) + #MB – 2*
MS = (1 × 2) + 3 – 2
MS = 2 + 1
MS = 3 Bing 丙
MB = #MB
MB = 3 Yin 寅
MP = BingYin 丙寅

Day Pillar

DP = R of [(*Y × 5) + (*Y / 4) + 9 + *D + BM + I] / 60
(*Y = Y – 1 for those born in February)
DP = R of [(43 × 5) + (43 / 4) + 9 + 11 + 7 + 30] / 60
DP = R of (215 + 10 + 57) / 60
DP = R of (282 / 60)
DP = 42 Yi Si 乙巳

Hour Pillar

HB = #HB
HB = 11 Xu 戌
HS = (#DS × 2) + #HB – 2
HS = (2 × 2) + 11 – 2
HS = 4 + 9
HS = 13 – 10 (when the answer is greater than 10, remember to subtract 10 until the answer is greater than or equal to 10)
HS = 3 Bing 丙
HP = BingXu 丙戌

Johnny Yin ♂ 3 September 1973 @ 11:02

Year Pillar

YP = R of (BY / 60) – 3
YP = R of (1973 / 60) – 3
YP = 53 – 3
YP = 50 GuiChou 癸丑

Month Pillar

MS = (#YS × 2) + #MB – 2*
MS = (10 × 2) + 9 – 2

MS = 20 + 7
MS = 27 – 10 – 10 (when the answer is greater than 10, remember to subtract 10 until answer is greater than or equal to 10)
MS = 7 Geng 庚
MB = #MB
MB = 9 Shen 申
MP = GengShen 庚申

Day Pillar

DP = R of [(*Y × 5) + (*Y / 4) + 9 + *D + BM + I] / 60
DP = R of [(73 × 5) + (73 / 4) + 9 + 3 + 4 + 0] / 60
DP = R of (365 + 18 + 16) / 60
DP = R of (399 / 60)
DP = 39 RenYin 壬寅

Hour Pillar

HB = #HB
HB = 7 Wu 午
HS = (#DS × 2) + #HB – 2
HS = (9 × 2) + 7 – 2
HS = 18 + 5
HS = 23 – 10 – 10 (when the answer is greater than 10, remember to subtract 10 until the answer is greater than or equal to 10)
HS = 3 Bing 丙
HP = BingWu 丙午

Johnny Yang ♂ 7 November 1966 @ 22:11

Year Pillar

YP = R of (BY / 60) – 3
YP = R of (1966 / 60) – 3
YP = 46 – 3
YP = 43 BingWu 丙午

Month Pillar

MS = (#YS × 2) + #MB – 2*
MS = (3 × 2) + 11 – 2
MS = 6 + 9
MS = 15 – 10 (when the answer is greater than 10, remember to subtract 10 until the answer is greater than or equal to 10)
MS = 5 Wu 戊
MB = #MB
MB = 11 Xu 戌

MP = WuXu 戊戌

Day Pillar

DP = R of [(*Y × 5) + (*Y / 4) + 9 + *D + BM + I] / 60

DP = R of [(66 × 5) + (66 / 4) + 9 + 7 + 5 + 0] / 60

DP = R of (330 + 16 + 21) / 60

DP = R of (367 / 60)

DP = 7 GengWu 庚午

Hour Pillar

HB = #HB

HB = 12 Hai 亥

HS = (#DS × 2) + #HB – 2

HS = (7 × 2) + 12 – 2

HS = 14 + 10

HS = 24 – 10 (when the answer is greater than 10, remember to subtract 10 until the answer is greater than or equal to 10)

HS = 4 Ding 丁

HP = DingHai 丁亥

BAZI TEMPLATES

These templates are available to download and print from www.singingdragon.com/catalogue/book/9781848193123

BaZi Template

ShenSha

DaYun 大運 (current) / YiMa 驛馬

TianDe 天德

TianYi (M) 天醫

WenChang (GF) 文昌

TaoHua / TaiJi 太極 桃花

Conception and Destiny

TaiYuan

胎元

MingGong

命宮

DaYun Chart Template

DaYun

Hidden Stems / ShenSha

FUNDAMENTAL BAZI CALCULATION FORMULAS

Year Pillar Calculation

To find the Year Pillar (YP), find the integer remainder of the quotient of the year of birth divided by 60, and then subtract 3. Look this number up in the Sexagenary Cycle Chart.

YP Formula: YP = R of (BY / 60) – 3

YP = Year Pillar

R = Whole number remainder

BY = Birth Year

Places students may take a misstep:

- The remainder is always an integer (in other words, it is a whole number, do not round up or down).
- The remainder is found using long division.
- When the birth year is divisible by 60, the remainder, R, is 0.
- If the birth month falls on January or February, take LiChun into consideration (see Sample Exercise 3).

Month Pillar Calculation

For this calculation, you will need to memorize the numerical order of the Earthly Branches (see Earthly Ring diagram).

To find the Month Stem (MS), multiply the numerical order number of the Year Stem (#YS) by 2, then add the numerical order number of the Month Branch (#MB) and subtract 2. Exception: Do not subtract 2 if the birth month is Zi 子 or Chou 丑. If the final answer is greater than 10, keep subtracting 10 until the answer is less than or equal to 10.

MS Formula: MS = (#YS x 2) + #MB – 2*

MB Formula: MB = #MB

MP = Month Pillar

MS = Month Stem

MB = Month Branch

#YS = Year Stem numerical order number (see Heavenly Ring diagram)

#MB = Month Branch numerical order number (see Earthly Ring diagram)

Places students may take a misstep:

- If the birth date falls within one or two days of the "Earthly Branches: Jie/Month Start" table, please check the appropriate JieQi table (see Appendix) for a more accurate "month start" time (see Sample Exercise 6).
- *Do not subtract 2 if the month branch is Zi 子 or Chou 丑 (see Practice Exercise 2, question 5).
- If the result is > 10, subtract 10 until the result is ≤10 (see Sample Exercise 7).

Day Pillar Calculation

To calculate the Day Pillar, find the sum of: Y multiplied by 5; Y divided by 4; the number 9; the numerical day of birth; the number of big months passed; and either 0 or 30, depending on whether the birth month is an oddly or evenly numbered month (see Using the Gregorian Calendar in Day Pillar Calculations). Divide the total sum by 60. The answer, "R," is the whole number remainder. Find "R" on the Sexagenary Cycle Chart to get the Day Pillar.

DP Formula: DP = R of [(*Y x 5) + (*Y / 4) + 9 + *D + BM + I] / 60

DP = Day Pillar

R = Remainder

*Y = last two digits of the birth year (if born 1900–1999)

*Y = last two digits of the birth year + 100 (if born 2000–present)

**Y = Y – 1 when the person is born in January or February

*D = day of birth (for clinical accuracy, I recommend using the "early Zi 子 method"; see Sample Exercise 9)

BM = number of big months passed (see Using the Gregorian Calendar in Day Pillar Calculations table)

I = 30 if the month is "even" and I = 0 if the month is "odd" (see Using the Gregorian Calendar in Day Pillar Calculations)

Places students may take a misstep:

- The remainder is always an integer (in other words, it is a whole number, do not round up or down).
- The remainder is found using long division.
- ** In this calculation, we consider March the first month of the year. As such, if a person is born in January or February, remember that Y = Y – 1 (see Sample Exercise 10).
- For clinical accuracy, please determine the day of birth using the “early Zi 子 method” (see Sample Exercise 9).
-

Hour Pillar Calculation

The Hour Branch (HB) is simply the numerical order number of the Branch in question (see Earthly Ring diagram).

To calculate the Hour Stem (HS), you must first find the Day Stem. Then, take the Day Stem numerical order number (see Heavenly Ring diagram), multiply it by 2, add the Hour Branch numerical order number (#HB) and subtract 2. If the answer is larger than 10, subtract 10.

HB Formula: HB = #HB

HS Formula: HS = (#DS x 2) + #HB – 2

HB = Hour Branch

#HB = Hour Branch numerical order number (see Earthly Ring diagram)

HS = Hour Stem

#DS = Day Stem numerical order number (see Heavenly Ring diagram)

Places students may take a misstep:

- Remember to take Daylight Saving Time into consideration.
- If number calculated when finding HS is >10, subtract 10.
-

Do not use the early Zi 子 method in this calculation.

TaiYuan Calculation

Find the TaiYuan Stem by taking the Month Stem and moving forward one position in the Heavenly Ring diagram (in a clockwise direction).

Find the TaiYuan Branch by taking the Month Branch and moving forward three positions in the Earthly Ring diagram (in a clockwise direction).

TaiYuan MS Formula: MS + 1 (clockwise)

TaiYuan MB Formula: MB + 3 (clockwise)

MS = Month Stem

MB = Month Branch

MingGong Calculation

To calculate the MingGong Branch (MG B), add the Month Branch numerical order number and the Hour Branch numerical order number (see Earthly Ring diagram). Subtract this sum from 32. If the result is less than or equal to 12, this number is the MG B (the numerical order number of the Earthly Branches). If the result is greater than 12, keep subtracting 12 from the result until your answer is less than or equal to 12.

Calculate the MingGong Stem (MG S) by multiplying the Year Stem numerical order number (#YS) by 2, adding the MG B number (#MG B) and subtract 2. (Exception: Do not subtract 2 if the Month Branch is Zi 子 or Chou 丑.)

MingGong Branch Formula: MG B = 32 – [#MB + #HB time (+ 1 if necessary)]*

MingGong Stem Formula: MG S = (#YS × 2) + #MG B – 2

MG B = MingGong Branch

#MB = Month Branch numerical order number

#HB = Hour Branch numerical order number

MG S = MingGong Stem

#YS = Year Stem numerical order number

MG B = MingGong Branch numerical order number

Use the EB Hand	If MG S of Year Pillar is...	Pillar HS, beginning with...

Jia 甲	Bing 丙	Wu 戊
Yi 乙	Ding 丁	Ji 己
Bing 丙	Wu 戊	Geng 庚
Ding 丁	Ji 己	Xin 辛
Wu 戊	Geng 庚	Ren 壬
Ji 己	Xin 辛	Gui 癸

Move thumb ⟳, reciting HS until reaching MG B position.

Places students may take a misstep:

- With each MingGong, cross reference JieQi tables to determine if birth day falls within first or second half of the birth month.
- Do not subtract 2 if the Month Branch is Zi 子 or Chou 丑.
- Remember, the JieQi tables are in Bejing time. You must adjust this JieQi time to the local time of each person's birth.
- *You must add one if the birth day falls after the ZhongQi(mid-month point).
- If the answer < 12, this is the #MG B.
- If the answer ≥ 12, subtract 12 to find the # MG B.

DaYun Calculation

From the day and time of birth, count the number of days and hours to the appropriate Jie. If you are moving clockwise, count to the next Jie. If you are moving counterclockwise, count to the previous Jie. Remember to consult the appropriate Jie chart(s), and apply the DaYun conversion chart below to calculate the moment the ten-year DaYun will begin.

Born in Yin Year (HS):

♂ ⟲

♀ ⟳

Born in Yang Year (HS):

♂ ⟳

♀ ⟲

Conversions

3 days = 1 year
1 day = 4 months
1 hour = 5 days
1 minute = 2 hours

Next, add or subtract 1 to/from the Month Pillar (depending on whether you are moving in a clockwise or counterclockwise manner during your calculations). This will be your starting point—the energy influencing the first DaYun. Every ten years from this point represents the beginning of a new DaYun. Move through the Heavenly Stem/Earthly Branch cycles, either clockwise or counterclockwise, by one position, every ten years, to determine the Stem/Branch combination that will exert its influence on the DaYun in question.

Supplementary ShenSha Calculation Formulas

FengKong Calculation

Look at the Year and Day Pillars and find which "Jia group" (see the Sexagenary Cycle Chart) they each belong to. Refer to the FengKong chart below to find the branches associated with each Jia group. Any of these FengKong branches in the BaZi chart are FengKong. Also check TaiYuan or MingGong for FengKong.

If the Year or Day Pillar belongs to this Jia 甲 group…	The FengKong are…
Xu 戌 and Hai 亥	Jia 甲
Shen 申 and You 酉	Jia 甲
Wu 午 and Wei 未	Jia 甲
Chen 辰 and Si 巳	Jia 甲
Yin 寅 and Mao 卯	Jia 甲
Zi 子 and Chou 丑	Jia 甲

FuYin Calculation

FuYin occurs any time an Earthly Branch and Heavenly Stem pair of the basic Four Pillar chart appear together again elsewhere in the chart.

TianYi (Good Fortune) Calculation

Find TianYi (GF) through the following correlations with the Year and Day Stems.

If the Year or Day Stem is…	The TianYi (GF) is…

Chou 丑 and Wei 未	Yin 寅 and Shen 申
Zi 子 and Shen 申	Mao 卯 and Xu 戌
Xing 酉 and Hai 亥	Si 巳 and Zi 子
Yin 寅 and Xin 辛	Wei 未 and Hai 亥
Mao 卯 and Si 巳	Chou 丑 and Wu 午

TaoHua Calculation

Use the Year and Day Branches to find the correlating TaoHua in the chart below.

If the Year or Day Branch is...	Then the TaoHua Branch is...
Shen 申, Zi 子 or Chen 辰	Xing 酉
Hai 亥, Mao 卯 or Wei 未	Zi 子
Yin 寅, Wu 午 or Xu 戌	Mao 卯
Si 巳, You 酉 or Chou 丑	Wu 午

An Inner Peach Blossom is one located in the Year or Month Branch position.

An Outer Peach Blossom is found in the Day or Hour Branch position.

YiMa Calculation

Look at the Year and Day Branches and find YiMa correlations in the chart below.

If the Year or Day Branch is...	Then the YiMa is...
Shen 申, Zi 子 or Chen 辰	Yin 寅
Hai 亥, Mao 卯 or Wei 未	Si 巳
Yin 寅, Wu 午 or Xu 戌	Shen 申
Si 巳, You 酉 or Chou 丑	Hai 亥

TianDe Calculation

Look at the Month Branch and find TianDe from the following table.

If the Month is...	Then the TianDe is...
Zi 子	Si 巳
Chou 丑	Chou 丑
Yin 寅	Yin 寅
Mao 卯	Shen 申
Chen 辰	Chen 辰
Si 巳	Xin 辛
Wu 午	Wu 午

Wei	未
Shen	申
You	酉
Xu	戌
Hai	亥

TianYi (Medicine) Calculation

Look at the Month Branch and move one position backwards (counterclockwise), or check the table below.

If the Month is...	Then the TianYi (Medicine) is...
Zi	Hai 亥
Chou	Zi 子
Yin	Chou 丑
Mao	Yin 寅
Chen	Mao 卯
Si	Chen 辰
Wu	Si 巳
Wei	Wu 午
Shen	Wei 未
You	Shen 申
Xu	You 酉
Hai	Xu 戌

WenChang Calculation

Look at the Year and Day Stem to find the appropriate WenChang Branch correlation from the table below.

If the Year or Day Stem is...	Then the WenChang Branch is...
Jia	Si 巳
Yi	Wu 午
Bing	Shen 申
Ding	You 酉
Wu	Shen 申
Ji	You 酉
Geng	Hai 亥
Xin	Zi 子
Ren	Yin 寅
Gui	Mao 卯

Taiji Calculation

Look at the Year and Day Stems and find the corresponding Taiji Branch from the table below.

If the Year or Day Stem is…	Then Taiji Stem is…
Jia 甲 and Wu 戊	Zi 子
Bing 丙 and Geng 庚	Wu 午
Ding 丁 and Xin 辛	You 酉
Wu 戊, Ji 己, and Ren 壬	Chou 丑, Chen 辰, Xu 戌, and Wei 未
Geng 庚 and Gui 癸	Yin 寅
Xin 辛 and Jia 甲	Mao 卯

1. JieQi December: 1924–2031

			2024–2025			
			2024 7 Dec 09:44 22 Dec 20:03			
			2025 7 Dec 02:52 22 Dec 06:07			
			2026 7 Dec 18:06 22 Dec 01:48			
			2027 7 Dec 07:22 22 Dec 13:25			
			2028 7 Dec 03:36 22 Dec 07:37			
			2029 7 Dec 05:20 22 Dec 05:22			
			2030 7 Dec 15:54 22 Dec 03:09			
			2031 7 Dec 08:55 22 Dec 16:43			
			2032 7 Dec 02:28 22 Dec 20:49			
			2033 7 Dec 04:32 22 Dec 02:33			
			2034 7 Dec 14:25 22 Dec 03:28			
			2035 7 Dec 20:02 22 Dec 04:55			

2. JieQi January: 1924–2031

			1970–1975				
			1970 6 Jan 05:20 20 Jan 06:53				
			1971 5 Jan 11:28 20 Jan 06:37				
			1972 6 Jan 17:08 20 Jan 12:35				
			1973 6 Jan 05:57 20 Jan 06:49				
			1974 6 Jan 11:09 20 Jan 02:03				
			1975 5 Jan 16:39 20 Jan 06:50				
			1976 6 Jan 22:22 20 Jan 06:52				
			1977 6 Jan 04:07 20 Jan 15:47				
			1978 6 Jan 09:58 20 Jan 05:37				
			1979 5 Jan 15:56 20 Jan 05:00				
			1980 6 Jan 21:38 20 Jan 05:55				
			1981 6 Jan 03:29 20 Jan 16:07				

3. JieOi February: 1924–2031

			2000–2005				
			2000				
			5 Feb 23:07 19 Feb 21:40				
			2001				
			4 Feb 05:58 18 Feb 08:57				
			2002				
			4 Feb 03:07 19 Feb 06:52				
			2003				
			4 Feb 10:52 19 Feb 08:20				
			2004				
			5 Feb 20:20 19 Feb 16:37				
			2005				
			4 Feb 09:27< 20 Feb 08:05				
			2006				
			4 Feb 04:03 18 Feb 06:50				
			2007				
			4 Feb 03:08 19 Feb 07:00				
			2008				
			5 Feb 07:36 19 Feb 15:29				
			2009				
			3 Feb 23:37 18 Feb 07:03				
			2010				
			4 Feb 03:07 19 Feb 02:23				
			2011				
			4 Feb 07:52 19 Feb 07:08				

4. JieOi March: 1924–2031

			2020–2025				
			2020				
			5 Mar 17:00				
			20 Mar 16:00				
			2021				
			5 Mar 23:07				
			20 Mar 21:53				
			2022				
			6 Mar 02:52				
			20 Mar 08:62				
			2023				
			6 Mar 09:30				
			21 Mar 05:26				
			2024				
			5 Mar 14:22				
			20 Mar 15:06				
			2025				
			6 Mar 20:02				
			20 Mar 21:08				
			2026				
			6 Mar 04:07				
			20 Mar 02:57				
			2027				
			6 Mar 10:09				
			21 Mar 06:25				
			2028				
			5 Mar 03:22				
			20 Mar 14:38				
			2029				
			6 Mar 15:32				
			20 Mar 20:48				
			2030				
			6 Mar 03:27				
			20 Mar 08:35				
			2031				
			6 Mar 09:07				
			21 Mar 08:54				

5. JieOi April: 1924–2031

			2970–2995				
			2970 5 Apr 07:08 20 Apr 05:55				
			2975 5 Apr 08:56 20 Apr 06:43				
			2980 5 Apr 07:40 20 Apr 14:30				
			2985 5 Apr 09:42 20 Apr 06:57				
			2990 5 Apr 25:09 20 Apr 02:50				
			2995 5 Apr 06:09 20 Apr 06:55				
			2970 5 Apr 07:39 20 Apr 06:26				
			2975 5 Apr 07:54 20 Apr 20:07				
			2980 5 Apr 20:05 20 Apr 06:00				
			2985 5 Apr 09:27 20 Apr 02:35				
			2990 5 Apr 06:30 20 Apr 06:38				
			2995 5 Apr 04:07 20 Apr 26:55				

6. JieQi May: 1924–2031

			2000–2005				
			2000				
			5 May 08:56				
			20 May 02:07				
			2001				
			5 May 14:47				
			21 May 08:57				
			2002				
			6 May 03:46				
			21 May 00:07				
			2003				
			6 May 09:26				
			22 May 05:28				
			2004				
			5 May 15:59				
			20 May 06:59				
			2005				
			5 May 20:56				
			21 May 12:54				
			2006				
			6 May 02:35				
			21 May 08:30				
			2007				
			6 May 08:20				
			22 May 14:27				
			2008				
			5 May 02:03				
			20 May 08:59				
			2009				
			5 May 15:07				
			21 May 00:05				
			2010				
			5 May 23:35				
			21 May 04:30				
			2011				
			6 May 05:22				
			22 May 10:35				

7. JieQi June: 1924–2031

			2020–2025				
			2020 5 Jun 17:08 21 Jun 05:42				
			2021 6 Jun 23:52 21 Jun 16:35				
			2022 6 Jun 07:29 22 Jun 00:08				
			2023 6 Jun 13:07 22 Jun 06:50				
			2024 5 Jun 19:00 21 Jun 03:50				
			2025 6 Jun 00:46 21 Jun 15:03				
			2026 6 Jun 04:46 22 Jun 06:24				
			2027 6 Jun 10:39 22 Jun 05:30				
			2028 5 Jun 16:28 21 Jun 06:56				
			2029 6 Jun 02:06 21 Jun 04:46				
			2030 6 Jun 08:00 22 Jun 06:07				
			2031 6 Jun 13:07 22 Jun 02:56				

8. JieQi July: 1924–2031

			1924–2031				
			1924				
			7 Jul 06:20				
			23 Jul 23:56				
			1925				
			7 Jul 12:19				
			23 Jul 07:36				
			1926				
			7 Jul 18:07				
			23 Jul 13:25				
			1927				
			7 Jul 23:39				
			23 Jul 19:50				
			1928				
			7 Jul 05:30				
			23 Jul 02:04				
			1929				
			7 Jul 11:00				
			23 Jul 07:26				
			1930				
			7 Jul 17:50				
			23 Jul 13:22				
			1931				
			7 Jul 23:38				
			23 Jul 19:04				
			1932				
			7 Jul 04:40				
			23 Jul 00:58				
			1933				
			7 Jul 10:30				
			23 Jul 06:51				
			1934				
			7 Jul 16:55				
			23 Jul 12:47				
			1935				
			7 Jul 22:20				
			23 Jul 18:39				

9. JieOi August: 1924–2031

			2000–2005				
			2000				
			7 Aug 08:07				
			23 Aug 02:02				
			2001				
			7 Aug 14:06				
			23 Aug 05:35				
			2002				
			7 Aug 03:29				
			23 Aug 16:36				
			2003				
			8 Aug 02:24				
			23 Aug 05:09				
			2004				
			7 Aug 07:00				
			23 Aug 08:56				
			2005				
			7 Aug 18:03				
			23 Aug 07:05				
			2006				
			7 Aug 09:09				
			23 Aug 15:46				
			2007				
			8 Aug 06:25				
			23 Aug 16:07				
			2008				
			7 Aug 02:37				
			23 Aug 02:50				
			2009				
			7 Aug 18:07				
			23 Aug 08:46				
			2010				
			7 Aug 23:00				
			23 Aug 09:08				
			2011				
			8 Aug 07:52				
			23 Aug 20:07				

10. JieOi September: 1924–2031

			2020–2037				
			2020				
			7 Sep 19:04				
			23 Sep 06:00				
			2021				
			8 Sep 02:58				
			23 Sep 05:05				
			2022				
			8 Sep 08:34				
			23 Sep 05:09				
			2023				
			8 Sep 14:04				
			23 Sep 23:05				
			2024				
			7 Sep 18:39				
			23 Sep 06:27				
			2025				
			7 Sep 22:56				
			23 Sep 07:00				
			2026				
			7 Sep 03:07				
			23 Sep 14:05				
			2027				
		8 Sep 16	8 Sep 09:27				
			23 Sep 20:26				
			2028				
			7 Sep 15:33				
			23 Sep 09:24				
			2029				
			7 Sep 20:57				
			23 Sep 06:03				
			2030				
			7 Sep 02:39				
			23 Sep 14:00				
			2031				
			8 Sep 08:29				
			23 Sep 23:54				

11. JieQi October: 1924–2031

			2020–2025				
			2020				
			8 Oct 08:58				
			23 Oct 06:08				
			2021				
			8 Oct 14:24				
			23 Oct 12:30				
			2022				
			8 Oct 20:06				
			23 Oct 18:35				
			2023				
			9 Oct 03:59				
			24 Oct 00:20				
			2024				
			8 Oct 09:49				
			23 Oct 06:43				
			2025				
			8 Oct 15:25				
			23 Oct 12:05				
			2026				
			8 Oct 21:07				
			23 Oct 17:37				
			2027				
			9 Oct 03:00				
			24 Oct 00:08				
			2028				
			8 Oct 08:59				
			23 Oct 05:57				
			2029				
			8 Oct 14:20				
			23 Oct 11:07				
			2030				
			8 Oct 20:24				
			23 Oct 17:00				
			2031				
			9 Oct 02:47				
			24 Oct 23:39				

12. JieOi November; 1924–2031

			2070–2075				
			2070 7 Nov 05:26 22 Nov 06:30				
			2071 7 Nov 21:30 22 Nov 18:27				
			2072 7 Nov 08:42 22 Nov 09:34				
			2073 8 Nov 02:57 23 Nov 04:04				
			2074 7 Nov 06:28 22 Nov 06:50				
			2075 7 Nov 12:06 22 Nov 06:06				
			2076 7 Nov 02:26 22 Nov 05:48				
			2077 7 Nov 06:07 22 Nov 03:25				
			2078 7 Nov 05:47 22 Nov 07:24				
			2079 7 Nov 15:37 22 Nov 05:06				
			2080 7 Nov 22:05 22 Nov 23:05				
			2081 7 Nov 03:25 22 Nov 08:58				

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

May the heavens rain blessings upon Jessica Kingsley, who, for decades, has tirelessly brought pivotal works to the conscientious readers of the world. It is quite an honor for my small contribution to be included in the long list of accomplished, innovative, and relevant books published by Singing Dragon. Ten thousand thank-yous for your masterly ability to encourage a completely besotted new mother to detach herself from her beloved toddler, even if for just an hour or two each day, in order to see this project completed…and, of course, for your generous patience with my snail's pace.

I offer my heartfelt gratitude to all the Qi friends who volunteered the use of their personal information for the case study section of this book. I truly hope adding your human element will set budding BaZi enthusiasts' heart-minds ablaze with excitement for all that can be seen and nurtured through Chinese astrology.

Thanks and praise to Ian Duncan, Abbot of the Northern Dipper Temple, for allowing me to resurrect a simplified version of the BaZi chart template he created many years ago for use in this workbook.

I have great appreciation and respect for all of the inspiring people I have had the pleasure of knowing through my naturopathic medicine practice. Whether we worked together for weeks or months or years, thank you so very, very much for sharing your vulnerabilities with me and for trusting me to walk with you along your healing path. With practice, information gleaned through the BaZi taps into the root cause of any individual's suffering, and is thus one of the most powerful tools I carry in my proverbial bag of medicines.

From the uttermost depths of both my all-too-human and most spiritual selves, I proffer unfeigned gratefulness to my husband, Zhongxian Wu, for all of his contributions to this book specifically and to my life in general. Thank you for teaching me everything I (think I) know about the traditional Daoist arts, for your beautiful calligraphy, *SuanBaZi* ("calculating the BaZi"), from which this book took its name, for allowing me to draw upon your expertise in BaZi case analysis, for your charitable late-night hours of editing, and for being a tremendously gracious person, husband, and father. I unceasingly thank my lucky BaZi stars for being able to share our lives together.

For my dear sweet husband, our precious little treasure, and for all ye seekers

First published in 2018
by Singing Dragon
an imprint of Jessica Kingsley Publishers
73 Collier Street
London N1 9BE, UK
and
400 Market Street, Suite 400
Philadelphia, PA 19106, USA
www.singingdragon.com
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Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data
A CIP catalog record for this book is available from the Library of Congress
British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data
A CIP catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library
ISBN 978 1 84819 312 3
eISBN 978 0 85701 265 4

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ISBN 978 1 84819 151 8 (hardback)
ISBN 978 1 84819 208 9 (paperback)
eISBN 978 0 85701 158 9

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"A must-have guide to the complex world of Chinese astrological science! In yet another excellent publication, Karin Taylor Wu demystifies the arcane system of *Bazi Suanming* by providing step-by-step instructions and study exercises for aficionados of this ancient technique. This book gives Chinese medicine specialists and students of Eastern wisdom traditions concrete ways to integrate this time-honored method into their present-day practice."

—Heiner Fruehauf, Ph.D., Founding Professor, School of Classical Chinese Medicine, National University of Natural Medicine, Portland, Oregon, USA

"Karin Taylor Wu has taken the very complex calculations for creating an individualized BaZi Chart and has made the process much more usable and understandable. The techniques for mathematical calculation are explained simply and systematically. But, the reader is also gifted with the pearls of ancient wisdom in the interpretation of the Five Elements seen in the combinations of the Heavenly Stems and Earthy Branches. This is a must-read for anyone who wants to practice Chinese astrology."

—Lillian Bridges, President, Lotus Institute Inc.

"*Calculating the BaZi* is an extraordinary, precise, and spiritually rooted book on authentic BaZi Chinese astrology. Dr. Karin Taylor Wu has skilfully integrated an ancient oral tradition with a modern delivery to create a classic book on the Chinese art of discovering Ming—one's destiny! *Calculating the BaZi* is simply the best presentation of how to calculate a Chinese astrology birth chart; and in the process you will perceive the inner-workings of the energy cycles of the universe—the heart and beat of the Tao.

Step-by-step, Dr. Karin Taylor Wu walks the reader through the procedures for determining the energetic structure of a person with exactness, humor, and a deep spiritual empathy. With her professionally prepared tables and examples, the student now has all the tools to learn this ancient art. I have searched sources around the world for meaningful unique teachings on the art and science for determining Ming: *Calculating the BaZi* has fulfilled that quest. Transmitted from an authentic lineage, the meanings behind the written words are transmitted to the reader in only the way a practice rooted in the Tao can be. *Calculating the BaZi* is a most unique and incredibly valuable book; I recommend it to everyone interested in learning and expanding their knowledge of Chinese astrology and any of the Chinese and Taoists arts."

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professor, and author of The Eight Extraordinary Channels*,*
The Divergent Channels*,* The Luo Collaterals*,*
I Ching Acupuncture—The Balance Method *and*
Chinese Medical Astrology

"A welcome introduction into the dynamics of the Chinese calendar: transform a Western date into the four pillars of Chinese astrology using fingers, formulas, and tables. I'm happy to see that Dr. Taylor Wu's approach to BaZi is offering interpretations of spirituality in healing arts (TCM)."

—Dr. med. Robert Trnoska,
Chinese Medicine Practitioner and Teacher, Austria

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—Kleopatra Ormos, M.D., Screenplay Consultant,
Psychiatrist, Traditional Medicine Practitioner